The New Books

Art

PRIMITIVE NEGRO SCULPTURE. By Paul Guillaume and Thomas Munro. Harcourt, Brace. \$6.

English Homes. Period VI. Vol. I. Late Georgian. Scribners. \$25.

Belles Lettres

EUGENE O'NEILL. By Barrett H. Clark. McBride. \$1 net.

THE BEGINNINGS OF ENGLISH LITERARY PERIODICALS. By Walter Graham. Oxford University Press. \$2.50.

BIOGRAPHIA LITERARIA. By Samuel Taylor Coleridge. Edited by John Calvin Metcalf. Macmillan.

ABSTRACTS OF THESES. Vol. II. University of Chicago Press.

Biography

FOUR AMERICAN PARTY LEADERS. By Charles E. Merriam. Macmillan. 1926. \$1.50.

What is the secret of political leadership? Professor Merriam, who has been trying to answer this question for some time, tackles it in a concrete way in the four lectures published in this little volume, dealing with the personalities and the careers of Lincoln, Roosevelt, Wilson, and Bryan.

Well-informed though Professor Merriam is, his analysis of political leadership as it was displayed by these four men is rather mechanical than deeply psychological. He does little more than pigeon-hole traits which are plainly visible. An instance of his failure to pursue a clew is given by his treatment of the quality of "sensitiveness to currents of political opinion" which he finds in all four of his exhibits. Limits of space cannot be pleaded as an excuse for neglecting to state frankly that this sensitiveness to public opinion may mean a change of attitude smacking of an overmastering desire for place or power. Professor Merriam leaves the impression that this sensitiveness is valuable simply as a weapon in the leader's armory; he gives no hint of the light its use may throw upon the leader's personality or character, which is the great object of his investigation.

Some of Professor Merriam's statements are open to serious question, as his remark that Bryan "was gifted with histrionic ability of a very high order, and would probably have achieved notable success upon the stage." This view does not agree with Professor Merriam's earlier picture of the Nebraskan as "the greatest political evangelist of his day." An evangelist would not easily subdue his personality in that of a stage character. The importance of political leadership in a democracy fully justifies Professor Merriam's interest in the subject and his insistent call for its scientific examination.

TROUBADOURS OF PARADISE. By Sister W. Eleanore. Appleton. \$2.

SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE. By Hugh l'Anson Fausset. Harcourt, Brace. \$3.50.

SAM Noble, Able Seaman. Stokes. \$3. Modern Biography. Edited by Marietta Hyde. Harcourt, Brace.

THE LOVE LETTERS OF MARY HAYS. Edited by A. F. Wedd. London: Methuen.
THE WRITINGS AND LIFE OF GEORGE MERE-

THE WRITINGS AND LIFE OF GEORGE MERE-DITH. By Mary Sturge Gretton. Harvard University Press.

A LILY OF OLD FRANCE. By Eric Rede Buckley. Appleton.

Drama

COMMUNITY DRAMA. Prepared by the Playground and Recreation Association of America. Century. \$2.

Success. By A. A. Milne. Putnam.

MITHRIDATES. By Jean Racine. Translated by Howard Davis Spoerl. Tufts College Press. PLAYS. By Richard Brinsley Sheridan. Edited by Clayton Hamilton. Macmillan.

AUTUMN FIRE. By T. C. Murray. Houghton Mifflin. \$1.25.

LAVENDER LADIES. By Daisy Fisher. Brentanos. \$1.50.

Economics

THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION.
By Paul Périgord. Appleton. \$3.

THE NEW LEADERSHIP IN INDUSTRY. By
Sam 4. Legischen. Dutton.

Sam A. Lewisohn. Dutton. \$2.

The Coal Miner's Struggle for Industrial Status. By Arthur E. Suffern. Macmillan. \$2.50.

WEALTH, VIRTUAL WEALTH AND DEBT. By Frederick Soddy. Dutton. \$3.50.

Education

BETTER ENGLISH THROUGH PRACTICE. By Alfred A. May. Globe Book Co. 87 cents.

CURRICULUM PROBLEMS. By Thomas H. Briggs. Macmillan.

INTELLIGENT PARENTHOOD. Chicago Association for Child Study and Parent Education. University of Chicago Press.

OBSERVATION AND TEACHING IN THE ELE-MENTARY GRADES. By Katherine M. Anthony. Baltimore: Warwick & York.

THE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL. By C. Vernon Bennett. Revised Edition. Baltimore: Warwick & York.

Extra-Curricular Activities in the Junior High School. By Paul W. Terry. Baltimore: Warwick & York.

HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION. By W. A. Cook. Baltimore: Warwick & York.

Disabled Persons. By Oscar M. Sullivan and Kenneth O. Snortum. Century \$3.

COLETTE AT LES FRERES. By Josette Eugène Spink and Violet Millis. Ginn. \$1.08. FOUR ESSENTIALS OF EDUCATION. By Thomas

Jesse Jones. Scribner's. \$1.50.

The Problems of Childhood. By Angelo

Patri. Appleton. \$2.
SECONDE ANNEE MODERNE. By Leopold Car-

don. Scribner's. \$1.40.
THE VOCABULARY SPELLER. By John G. Gilmartin. Book II. Scribner's. 60 cents.

Manuscript Writing Lessons. By Stone and Smalley. Book I. Scribner's. 28 cents. Poesies Francaises. Edited by Edith Philips.

Crofts. \$1.60.

ELEMENTS OF CHILD TRAINING. By R. J. Gale.

Holt. \$2.

GIFTED CHILDREN. By Leta S. Hollingworth,
Macmillan.

Description and Narrative Projects. By D. Davis Farrington. Crowell. \$2.50 net.

Fiction

THE VOICE OF THE MURDERER. By GOODWIN WALSH. Putnam. 1926. \$2.

This is a rather preposterous detective story, written melodramatically. Our interest kept up for a few chapters, but when Nadia, a Russian princess, entered the game, aboard a boat filled with art treasures and the remains of royal cellars, and it was announced that a grand duchess, a daughter of the czar, still lived and must lead millions of "true Russians" to put her back on the throne, and a marvelous mechanism made by Hugh Carstairs, the brilliant young electrical engineer, started to drag voices out of the past aboard the Russian mysteryyacht,-well, our interest began to flag. There is plenty of action, of course. But the whole farrago is too dime-novelish for our taste. However, those who don't care how a book is written and who have not outgrown the kind of thing they used to read in the shanty of the gang while smoking the devilish cubeb may still find thrills in Mr. Walsh's concoction.

BLACK PEARLS. By R. W. ALEXANDER. Appleton. 1926. \$2.

Except for an interlude whose setting is Limehouse, the whole of this rousing adventure story takes place on, and in the vicinity of, an island of the Solomon group. The plot's primary event, leaving Iris Merrion, an orphan four days old, to the care of criminal seafarers, is responsible nineteen years later for the concentration of the tale's action upon the scene of her birth. There, conflict for possession of the fabulous black pearls is waged ruthlessly, with tremendous violence and bloodshed, by rival bands of treasure hunters. The reader who likes this kind of fiction should, undoubtedly, be enthralled from start to conclusion.

THE CUTTERS. By BESS STREETER ALDRICH. Appleton. 1926. \$2.

These Cutters, a Middle-West family of moderate means and pioneer stock, labor strenuously to convince the reader that to live in a village is to taste of Elysium. They seem to us a tiresome, commonplace, uninviting lot, in spite of the twittering affection with which the author presents them. Ed Cutter, a tin-horn lawyer, his wife Nell, their growing children, and Gramma Cutter form the home circle. The friendly neighbors are dragged in, too, dull, simple folk of the Cutter species, and we are permitted to observe them all following the duties and pleasures of rustic existence. Anyone who has dwelt with a degree of permanence in the woods knows that they are peopled by yokels exactly like these, but it seems to us time to cease writing thirdrate, falsely optimistic novels in praise of

THE WINDY HILL. By JENNINGS PERRY. Simon & Schuster. 1926.

This is an evolutionary Tennessee fictional product. Mr. Perry has led a varied and vivid life including his years in a small town in that state in which this story begins. The main characters there are Clita Moss who has had a year or two in New York and returned to make a salon of her room in the Moss hotel; John Starr, a clerk in the railroad offices, and sundry young men. All of these talk in a highly strained vein of fancy; their conversation is sophomorically larded with learning which ranges from mythology to modernism.

Clita's selfish self makes havoc of men's hopes and ideals. She rouses Starr to passion, then flings him to the town bullies to be beaten. He leaves for New York, and the night before he goes Clita dances for him, nude, on the top of a hill.

Starr turns to Greenwich Village—an influence permeating this novel—to experience first life in a garret, and then an easy going success. Clita still has his love. She comes to New York, denies herself to him, uses him, and sweeps on to success as a dancer. The dénouement has a touch a bit out of the ordinary. The spiritual vampirism of Clita is developed with some power. But the writing of Mr. Perry is enormously an effort, self-conscious and turgid. A fair part of the cargo of his mind could be jettisoned to insure a smoother literary voyage.

THE VEIL OF GLAMOUR. By Olive Arden. Bobbs-Merrill. \$2.

WHITE WATER. By Robert E. Pinkerton. Reilly & Lec.

THE FORTUNES OF HUGO. By Denis Mackail. Houghton Mifflin. \$2. MISTRESS NELL GWYN. By Marjoric Bowen.

Appleton. \$2.

The Devil's Guard. By Talbot Mundy.
Bobbs-Merrill. \$2.

The Blue Castle. By L. M. Montgomery.

es. \$2.

(Continued on next page)

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"In the hundred years which have passed since the death of Thomas Jefferson he has never had such a biographer as he has at last found in Albert Jay Nock."—CARL VAN DOREN, Gentury Magazine.

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"Mr. Nock set out to give us a study of Jefferson that would illuminate his personality and philosophy, and he has achieved a distinctive success."—The Bookman.

"It is a joy to have this book from the brilliant editor of the lamented Freeman, so refreshingly free from studied cynicism. Charming in style, penetrating in interpretation, and written without prejudice, and with an honest desire to illuminate a great figure, Mr. Nock is to be congratulated upon a fine literary achievement."—CLAUDE G. BOWERS, N. Y. World.

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The New Books Fiction

(Continued from preceding page)

THE UNQUENCHABLE FLAME. By J. Arthur Ries. Dodd, Mead. \$2.
THEY SHALL HAVE MUSIC. By Alyse Greg-

ory. Harcourt, Brace.

THE WAY OF THE PANTHER. By Denny C. Stokes. Stokes. \$2.

SEA-GOING JOCK. By Kenneth Payson Kempson. Century. \$1.75.
SHORT TURNS. By Barry Benefield. . Cent-

THE SEA OF DREAMS. By Alfred Gordon Bennett. Macaulay. \$2.

Mad Rapture. By Elizabeth Irons Folsom.

Macaulay.

ALMOST PAGAN. By J. D. Beresford. Bobbs-Merrill. \$2.50.

HER Son's WIFE. By Dorothy Canfield. Harcourt, Brace. \$2. A Manifest Destiny. By Arthur D. How-

den Smith. Brentanos. \$2.50. THE HUNTER. By Ernest Glanville. Har-

court, Brace. \$2.50. THE ENTERTAINING ANGEL. By Samuel Merwin. New York: Sears. \$1.50.

ADVENTURES OF A YOUNGER SON. By Ed-

ward John Trelawney. Edited by Clarence Stratton. Harcourt, Brace.

DANIEL QUAYNE. By J. S. Fletcher. Doran. THE VEIL OF GLAMOUR. By Clair Arden. Bobbs-Merrill. \$2.

THE SPOKESMAN'S SECRETARY. By Upton Sinclair. Pasadena, Calif.: Sinclair. CORDELIA CHANTRELL. By Meade Minne-

gerode. Putnam.
THE WHITE MENACE. By John Rhode. McBride. \$2 net.

SNAKE GOLD. By Hervey White. Macmillan. \$1.75. A CHILD IS BORN. By Raymonde Machard.

Translated by Madeleine Boyd. Cosmopolitan. A Touch of Earth. By Lella Warren.

Simon & Schuster. SUMMER BACHELORS. By Warner Fabian.

Boni & Liveright. \$2. THE TRIUMPHANT RIDER. By Frances Har-

rod. Boni & Liveright. \$2. Jig-Saw. By Eden Phillpotts. Macmillan. \$2.

TREAD DWELLING. By Richard Crompton. Boni & Liveright. \$2.

Down River. By Ambrose Elwell. Small, Maynard. \$1.50 net.

THE BLACK CABINET. By Patricia Wentworth. Small, Maynard, \$2 net. THE GREEN LACQUER PAVILION. By Helen Beauclerk. Illustrated by Edmond Dulac. Doran.

\$2.50 net. THE FIGHTING SLOGAN. By H. A. Cody.

Doran. \$2 net. HER MOTHER'S DAUGHTER. By Nalbro Bartley. Doran. \$2 net.

FRATERNITY Row. By Lynn and Lois Mont-Oss. Doran. \$2 net.
I WANT TO BE A LADY. By Maximilian

Foster. Lippincott. \$2.

THE GLORY OF EGYPT. By Louis Moresby. Doran. \$2 net.
RED EARTH. By Jane England. Doran. \$2

THE CELESTIAL CITY. By Basoness Orcay.

Doran. \$2 net.
PAGAN MOTHERS. By Arthur Mortimer.
SPRING SORREL. By Mrs. Douglas Pullenyne. Doran. \$2 net.

Kennedy's Second Best. By John D. Freeman. Revell. \$2. Blue HAND. By Edgar Wallace. Small,

Maynard. \$2 net.

Taro of the Little People. By Lee Walmsley. Doran. \$2 net.

Foreign

L'Alimentazione e la Politica Anno-NARIA IN ITALIA. By Riccardo Bach: Bari: Laterza. (Yale University Press.)

LA LEGISLAZIONE ECONOMICA DELLA GUERRA. Bari: Laterza. (Yale University Press).

LA CHANSON DE SAINTE FOY. By Prosper Alfaric. Vol. II. Paris: Société d'Edition: Les Belles Lettres.

Government

THE INDIA OFFICE. By Sir Malcolm C. C. Seton. Putnam. \$2.

THE STATE AND THE KINGDOM. By William Monroe Balch. Abingdon Press. 50 cents

History

An Outline History of China. By Herbert H. Govern. Appleton. \$4.

THE BUSINESS LIFE OF ANCIENT ATHEMS. By George Calhoun. University of Chicago Press. \$2.

AMERICAN OFFICIAL Sources. Compiled by Waldo G. Leland, Asa Newton, D. Mareness. Yale University Press. \$5.25.

A HISTORY OF JAPAN. By the late James Murdoch. Vol. IV. Revised and edited by Joseph H. Longford. Greenberg.

A HISTORY OF ROUMANIA. By N. Iorga. Translated by Joseph McCabe. Dodd, Mead. \$4. QUEEN ELIZABETH'S MAIDS OF HONOUR. By Violet A. Wilson. Dutton. \$5.

A SHORT HISTORY OF CIVILIZATION. By Lynn Thorndike. Crofts. \$5.

Soldiers of the Plains. By P. E. Byrne. Minton, Balch. \$2.50.

THE ENGLISH CASTLES. By E. B. d'Auvergne. Dodd, Mead. \$6.

THE MAKING OF THE MODERN MIND. By John H. Randall, Jr. Houghton Mifflin. \$5. THE ROMANCE OF THE BOUNDARIES. By John T.

.. Faris. Harpers. \$6. Home Life Under the Stuarts. By Elizabeth

Godfrey. HISTORY IN ENGLISH WORDS. By Owen Barfield. Doran. \$1.50 net.

ENGLAND IN TUDOR TIMES. By L. F. Salaman. Scribners. \$3 net.

International

A MIRROR TO FRANCE. By Ford Madox Ford. A. & C. Boni. \$2.50.

DISARMAMENT. By P. J. Noel Baker. Harcourt, Brace. \$4.

THE FUTURE OF ISRAEL. By James Waterman Wise. Dutton. \$1.

THE UNITED STATES OIL POLICY. By John Ise. Yale University Press. \$7.50.

U. S.: A STUDY IN DEMOCRACY. By H. E. Buchholz. Baltimore: Warwick & York. ORIGINS OF THE CZECHO-SLOVAK STATE. By Thomas Capek, Jr. Revell Press.

PAN-EUROPE. By Richard N. Coudenhove-Kalerg. Knopf. \$2.50 net.

Juvenile

GAWPY. Verse and Music by HAROLD K. HESTWOOD. Decorations by ROBERT W. HESTWOOD. Hestwood Studios. Carmelby-the-Sea, California. 1926.

This is Gawpy: Book One. The Hestwoods are indubitably talented and we may have more Gawpys from them. Robert, the decorator of this book, is particularly talented. His effects in black and white, his strange and ingenuous pelicans must please the eyes of any child. The verses and music are simple and gay. The refrain which is set to music at the end of the book may divert parents as well as children.

SNOWSHOE AL'S BED TIME STORIES FOR GROWN-UP GUYS. With an introduction by RICHARD HENRY LITTLE (R. H. L.). Minton, Blach. 1926. \$1.50.

The late Josh Billings rode into fame on a surf of misspelt words. "Snowshoe Al," favorite of "A Line o' Type or Two," the column once truly adorned by the late B. L. T., essays somewhat the same adventure. But his misspelling does not seem to us any kind of a feat. It wearies us. It does not seem to us either awfully funny or original. As for the subject-matter, cracks such as "he took a job in a zoo ironing tha rinkles out uv baby elephants," "I've bin in sum tuff towns an' I've met sum tuff guys, but I got a frend wot maiks 'em all look like a flock uv chorus girls. He wuz wittling a stick wun day with his hunting knife an' accidently cut off 3 uv his fingers, an' didn't notise it till 5 days afterwards," and so on, do not cause a single crease in our face. 108 pages of the same find us still pretty sombre. So that is our test of the book. It does not seem to us to be on the big time.

WONDER TALES OF OLD TYROL. By Bernard Henderson and C. Calvert. Stokes. \$2.50. THE TIRED TROLLEY CAR. By Beth A. Ret-

ner. Doubleday, Page. \$2 net. THE HAMMON TWINS. By Willis Knapp

Jones. Century. \$1.75.
HUNTING STORIES RETOLD FROM ST. NICH-

olas. Century. \$1.25. ORPHEUS WITH HIS LUTE. By W. M. L. Hutchinson. Illustrated by Dugald Walker. Longmans, Green. \$2.25.

THE BALLOON BOYS. By Nels Leroy Jorgensen and Samuel Taylor Moore. Harcourt,

FILLMORE FOLK TALES. Selected by Wil-MAIDA'S LITTLE SCHOOL. By Inex Haynes

Irwin. Viking. \$1.50. HALE'S POSTER BUILDER STORY BOOK. Simon & Schuster.
SOLDIER RIGDALE. By Beulah Marie Dix.

Macmillan. \$1.75. CAPTAIN SANDMAN. By Miriam Clark Pot-

ter. Dutton. \$2. GAY'S YEAR ON SUNSET ISLAND. By Marguerite Aspinwall. Putnam. LITTLE WOMEN. By Louisa Olcott. Mac-

FIFTY COUNTRY RHYMES FOR CHILDREN. By E. L. M. King. Appleton. \$1. KING KURIOSITY. By George Mitchell. Small,

Maynard. \$1.50 net.
Midshipman Wickham. By Ralph D. Paine. Houghton Mifflin. \$1.75.

CHICKENS AND VEGETABLES, INCORPORATED. By Samuel Emery. Appleton. \$1.25. THE BOYS BOOK OF HUNTING AND FISHING. By Warren H. Miller. Appleton. \$2.50.

THE LAST PLAY. By Ralph Henry Barbour. Appleton. \$1.75. First Lessons in Nature Study. By Edith W. Patch. Macmillan, \$1.50.

DERIC IN MESA VERDE. By Deric Nusbaum. Putnam. \$1.75.

A TREASURY OF VERSE FOR SCHOOL AND HOME. Selected by M. G. Edgar and Eric Chilman. Illustrated by Honor C. Appleton. Crowell.

\$2.50 nct.
The Apple Tree. By Margery Williams Bianco. With decorations by Boris Artzybasheff. Doran.

OUR FRIENDS AT THE ZOO. By Julia Stoddard. Crowell. \$1.50 net.

OUR FRIENDS AT THE FARM. By E. Chivers Davies. Crowell. \$1.50 net.

FATHER'S GONE A-WHALING. By Alice Cushing Gardiner and Nancy Cabot Osborne. Doubleday, Page. \$2 net.

Miscellaneous

OUTWITTING MIDDLE AGE. By Dr. Carl Ramus. Century. \$5.
101 New Ways for Women to Make

Money. By Ruth Leigh. Simon & Schuster.

LOVE AND COURTSHIP. By Catherine Booth-Clibborn. Doran. \$1 net.
THE TRUTH ABOUT MORMONISM. By James H.

Snowden. Doran. \$2.50 net. CAMBRIDGE PAST AND PRESENT. By Brian W. Downs. Doran. \$6 net.

THE SOCIAL WORKERS IN A HOSPITAL WARD. By Elsie Wulkop. Houghton Mifflin. \$3. FAITH, HEALTH AND COMMON SENSE. By Edwin A. McAlpin. Doran. \$1.50 net. THE NEW JAPANESE WOMANHOOD. Allen K. Faust. Doran. \$1.50 net.

Pamphlets

SLAVEHOLDING IN NORTH CAROLINA: AN ECONOMIC VIEW. By Rosser Howard Taylor. University of North Carolina Press.

So This is Quebec. By Norris Hodgins Macdonald. College St. Anne de Bellevue, P. Q. 25 cents.

THE FOUNDING OF THE AMERICAN POLITICAL STATE AND ITS EARLY DISSOLUTION. New York Labor News Co. 15 cents.

OUR HERITAGE FROM 1776. By Bertram D. Wolfe, Jay Lovestone, and William F. Dunne. New York: Workers School. 15 cents.

THE TWO-PARTY SYSTEM IN ENGLISH POLITICAL HISTORY. By G. M. Trevelyan. Oxford University Press. 70 cents.

Philosophy

An Introduction to Social Psychology. By L. L. Bernard. Holt.

THE LANGUAGE AND THOUGHTS OF THE CHILD. By Jean Plaget. Harcourt, Brace. \$3.75.

Poetry

EAHOOYE MEAH. The Fragments of the Lyrical Poems of Sappho. Edited by EDGAR LOBEL. Oxford University Press. 1925. \$7.

This useful but expensive book contains the text of all the fragments, both new and old, with a brief commentary, purely critical; also, by way of introduction, several technical papers more in the nature of an appendix. In one respect, however, their bearing is wide. They virtually blacklist certain poems which the editor styles abnormal but clearly thinks of as spurious, in some instances saying so. Among these are the "Marriage of Hector and Andromache," a new fragment which nobody wanted, and that manifest folksong, "The moon has set, and the Pleiads," which, the editor observes, is not even in Sappho's dialect.

The text has cost the editor great pains, for he has reëxamined most of the papyri. He brings us, however, very few additions or corrections, which is high praise for the previous editors. The chief point of general interest is that here and there he cuts the ground from under conjectures that were getting established. The voices of many-eared night are now stopped, and the black and baleful she-dog with her evil snout dissolves into thin air. We find here few supplements or attempts at restoration, which is as it should be. Sappho's nightingales cannot be regained from a feather.

THE SILVER TREASURY OF ENGLISH LYRICS. Edited by T. EARLE WELBY. The Dial Press. 1926. \$3.

Mr. Welby tells us that he has been choosing the best for this anthology, distinctly not the second-best. An anthology to supplement Palgrave's famous Golden Treasury was needed. He has here endeavored to supply it. His two tests have been "Is this poem, in its own sort, of rare excellence? Is it in Palgrave?"

With all that, there is, of course, a great deal included that will be familiar to the devotee of poetry, heir now to so many anthologies that have followed Palgrave's. And the prizer of true rarities will be pleased to note Chidiock Tichborne's lines written on the night before he was beheaded (one of the few really great lyrical utterances that has hardly been anthologized at all), Kit Smart's "Song to David" printed almost in full, Sir Walter Raleigh's

"The Wood, the Weed, the Wag" (a notable discovery of the present anthologist), Ebenezer Jones's "A Lady's Hand," Charles Cotton's "Caelia's Fall," William Cartwright's "A Song of Dalliance." On the whole, Mr. Welby is to be congratulated. He has demonstrated, certainly, that neither Palgrave nor Quiller-Couch, nor lesser compilers, have cut all the laurels of English song. And we are glad for his inclusions from Poe.

THE LE GALLIENNE ANTHOLOGY OF AMERICAN VERSE. Boni & Liveright. 1926. \$3.50.

There is much to quarrel with in Mr. Le Gallienne's selections from American poetry, but we are too tired of anthologies to take up the details of our quarrel. He moves rather uneasily among the living poets. Even the older men like Mr. Robinson and Mr. Frost are disproportionately represented. The difference between the worst and the best of the selections is too great. Instead of setting himself some standard of poetic success to guide his choice Mr. Le Gallienne has fallen into the old trap. He has attempted to represent almost everybody, from Philip Freneau to Mr. John Farrar. The result is a book of which two-thirds is next to worthless in the most amiable literary viewpoint. Thus to judge the average quality of American poetry in terms of this collection would be actually unjust. Mr. Le Gallienne guards against such criticism as this in his preface-"poetic excellence cannot be the only consideration."

This is true enough. But it appears equally true that he has not devoted sufficient attention to the material question of poetic excellence. Such collections as his bolster up the notion, so prevalent in England, that America has yet to achieve a characteristic poetry. One hundred out of nearly four hundred pages was not enough to represent the proportionate contribution of the living poets. Whatever remains to be said for or against American poetry it was not until the present century, with such poets as Frost and Robinson, to say nothing of some scores of their younger contemporaries, that the national poetry showed its real strength in breaking away from the overseas tradition. There is sufficient in these last hundred pages to show that America has achieved a poetic individuality more or less independent of the pseudo-Victorian tradition of the New Englanders (whose work, by the way, accounts for most of the finest pages in this book). But we have yet to find the anthologist whose selection will serve to emphasize that independence at the same time as it renders due homage to Emerson, Bryant, Lowell, and their brethren. The task is one essentially meant for an academist who is not deaf to the younger voices. We should like to see such a book by Professor John Erskine.

NOTATIONS FOR A CHIMAERA. By HERBERT S. GORMAN. Milton I. D. Einstein: 295 5th Avenue. 1926.

Herbert Gorman has already published several volumes of poetry before this, a novel, a study of James Joyce, and other work. He has experimented with many styles in his poetry. He has here overcome the strong Robinsonian influence that affected his verse at one time, though a trace of it clings oddly enough to one poem otherwise not at all Robinsonian. Traces are also present of T. S. Eliot, of Maxwell Bodenheim, of Gertrude Stein, of Marianne Moore, even of Joyce himself. They are not obtrusive. But Gorman's restless experiments with new technique have not resulted, in this thin volume, in the emergence of a true style of his own, compelling recognition. At least, so it seems to this reviewer. There is manifest an extraordinary sensitiveness to mood, to the constant immanence of strangeness in life and love,-there is an elliptical method of expression that induces a mood rather than clarifying in language an intuition. There is often an intensely pictorial quality in the phrase. We believe the odd mysticism that haunts about most of the poems to be due to the Irish origin and temperament of

There are delicate beauties of language here, and more strident beauties. artist plays with words, endeavors often to give his poetry the inapprehensible meanings of music. The emotions are lightly swayed. Again, the intellect is posed abstruse riddles. It is all in the modern tendency. The general impression left is of shifting colors and lights in a gazing crystal. The chameleon poet feeds on light and air. Hence, for the average reader, there is little here; for the particular reader there may be much.