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By LILIAN T. MOWRER

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Shakespeare and Other Quotables

THE HOME BOOK OF SHAKESPEARE QUOTATIONS. Arranged and Edited by Burton Stevenson. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1937. \$12.50.

THE HOME BOOK OF QUOTATIONS CLASSICAL AND MODERN. Selected and Arranged by Burton Stevenson. New York: Dodd, Mead & Company. 1937. \$12.50.

Reviewed by ISAAC GOLDBERG

MR. STEVENSON'S book of Shakespeare quotations is better described by its sub-title: "Being also a Concordance & a Glossary of the Unique Words & Phrases in the Plays & Poems." Not all the entries are, or are presented as, quotations in the ordinary acceptance of that word. The book dealing solely with Shakespeare is almost two thirds as large as that dealing with quotations classical and modern; by this same token, the quotations from Shakespeare in the general volume are not nearly so many as those in the special, and have been selected in the second instance with true quotability in mind.

This is quite as it should be. Smaller volumes than the Shakespeare tome have included the complete works; it may well be that in the latest example of Mr. Stevenson's diligence we have virtually those complete works, duly anatomized, ticketed, and distributed for the convenience of the student and the general reader alike. For his purpose, the editor has used the revised Globe edition of 1911, following the chronology given by Mr. E. K. Chambers in his "William Shakespeare." "The Two Noble Kinsmen," "with which Shakespeare's connection is extremely nebulous," is not represented in the selections.

It is difficult to believe that the playwright made but a single use, in all his writings, of such familiar words as "fidelity," "gallantry," "decent," "dreary," "friendless," "improbable." Only once, Mr. Stevenson points out, does any character in Shakespeare say "above compare," "all at once," "cheek by jole," "good riddance," "against the grain," or "ill at ease." In the text, the editor indicates all examples of unique words and phrases and, in addition, of familiar expressions that occur but two or three times. Other innovations add to the usefulness of the stout compendium.

In cases where a number of quotations are to be had under a single heading, the

SOLUTION OF LAST WEEK'S DOUBLE-CROSTIC (No. 191)

E. LYONS—"ASSIGNMENT IN UTOPIA."

I am convinced that any philosophy of human progress which does not rest uncompromisingly on respect for life, no matter how honest its original intentions, becomes brutalized and defeats its own professed purpose.

quotations are grouped in the chronological order of the plays. Between the Table of Contents and the Index and Concordance, it would be difficult for a seeker not to find the exact lines that he is looking for.

"The Home Book of Quotations," good as it was in its first form, appears in its third edition larger and better than before; nearly a thousand new quotations have been added and the Concordance has been almost doubled. As a result of criticism and suggestions from readers in this country and abroad, omissions have been repaired "and three or four hoaxes have been uncovered." In appearance and planning the volume resembles that on Shakespeare as a fleshier twin resembles his lighter brother.

Stage History

ENCORE. By Daniel Frohman. New York: Lee Furman, Inc. 1937. \$3.50.

OF course Daniel Frohman has been a great character in the American theatre, and he has already written his reminiscences in "Daniel Frohman Presents." Now he discusses the early American theatre, writes of the first actor on the American stage, Anthony Aston; of Edwin Forrest, Dion Bouicault, Edwin Booth, Pinero, and so on. He indulges in scissoring and paste and anecdotes, and even harks back to Goldsmith, Garrick, Siddons, Kean, Betterton, Macklin, *et al.* Few producers have, today, any such knowledge of stage history. But though Mr. Frohman's book is urbane and informed, it is also a thing of scraps and patches, conveying no new information of particular value. However, the acting profession will probably enjoy it, as it is very much like sitting down with Mr. Frohman and hearing him rambling with intelligent anecdote through the past. It is good light reading.

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