

# LITERATURE

## POEMS EVERYBODY SHOULD KNOW

### TO A BLIND POET.

Though the night fall  
Upon a poet's eyes,  
His heart holds earth and skies,  
The seas, the stars and all  
The clues to Paradise.  
—By John Macy in the October Bookman.

### THE INVALID'S GARDEN.

The golden sunlight floods the air,  
The leaves are whispering in the trees,  
And through my open window comes  
The drowsy murmur of the bees.

Tall hollyhocks are blooming near—  
Deep red, and pink, and white are they—  
A robin, singing merrily,  
Proclaims the glories of the day.

The Queen of Flowers bends her head,  
And peeps at me through casement wide;  
In full-blown glory there she nods,  
And seems to beckon me outside.

Dear, fragrant rose, I cannot come,  
But here must spend the dreary hours,  
And yet my spirit dwells with you  
Among the birds and flowers.  
—Laura A. Ridley in October Amusee's.

## NOTES

The "News" has recently asked for information concerning the noted blind girl, Helen Keller, whose remarkable character and achievements have created such widespread interest. An impression having been obtained with a number of letters that she had passed away, the impression is an error, as Miss Keller is still living, and resides at present in Boston.

The publication of "Helianthus," Ouida's last novel, arouses strange memories in the older generation of novel readers. It is more than forty years since "Under Two Flags" appeared, and Ouida became in a moment one of the most popular of English novelists. A few years ago it was the fashion to ridicule her extravagance, her worship of aristocracy, her contempt for her own sex and her occasional linguistic blunders. But the critical attitude that appeared in the papers after her death, last winter, showed a very different attitude. Critics of standing were not afraid to pay tribute to her real power, her ability to seize the reader's attention. It came out that men like Tennyson and Andrew Lang read her novels and enjoyed them more than that, were not afraid to acknowledge their enjoyment. With all her early faults of taste and crudities of style, possessed talent of a very high order.

It is said that "Helianthus" was begun at least ten years before the author's death. A year or two ago, the manuscript was put in type, and it has been partially corrected by the author before her death. Although the story before her death is incomplete, it was obviously near its end. The book contains 445 pages.

From the amount of time Ouida gave to the composition of this story, as well as from its grandiose scheme, it may be surmised that she intended it to stand as her great work. It is a story of international relations and great political and diplomatic movements in modern Europe, the scene being laid for the most part in the land of Hellas, which may be identified with Athens, which may be identified with the international drama is set in a huge one.

The principal characters are the King of Helianthus and his immediate family—the crown prince and his princess, the younger prince and his princess, the King, the Emperor Francis Joseph, the czar and czarina, and others. There is no lack of movement and action in the story, and it is all quickened by a genuine and intense love of liberty. The vigor displayed in this book is astonishing. Had Ouida never written anything else, there would still be sufficient evidence of her talent. As the last thing that she wrote, "Helianthus" will have a special sentimental interest, while its actual merits are enough to win a larger share of attention than goes to the average novel of the day.

Maria Corelli has allowed her portrait to be copied for the first time since she became famous. Frederick A. Stokes Co., the publishers of her new novel, "Holy Orders," have thus secured the only likeness which is available for general use. In order to make it suitable for newspaper reproduction, they have prepared, in addition to the half-tone published in their

last bulletin, a large number of unusually good portraits of the above cut. These will be glad to supply on application.

The great attention which "Holy Orders" attracts in the United States on account of its treatment of many present-day questions will make Miss Corelli's views on America doubly interesting. She refers to this country several times in her new book. She says:

"America is like a half-grown boy who is all collar and tie and proud of his pants. His pockets are full of string and marbles, and he thinks them valuable property. He pulls them out every few minutes and looks at them with pride. He shows them to you, and charitably tells you, saying: 'See what I've got! But remember—he's only a boy. When he's a man, he's as likely as not to be the finest creature in the world!'"

"Now in the southern states of America there is a great revulsion against the drink, because of the frequency of crimes on women by negroes. Drink has been proven to be generally at the bottom of these revolting crimes, and the citizens of Georgia have voted the drink altogether. Don't forget that the governor who signed the bill signed away a large personal income of his own derived from the selling of liquor! I think his name will be found in the Book of Life somewhere!"

George Sylvester Viereck, the poet, has sailed for Germany, his first return to his native land since he left it at ten years of age. He says his recollections of the old country are of the dimmest, his coming to America being at the age of ten. He has been in the United States for many years, and his experience was most likely to efface the older. Mr. Viereck has received a letter from Arthur Symonds, who says of "The House of the Vampires":

"The idea is one I quite believe in, in the metaphysical sense, and I have often said that the general idea of the book is the best I have ever seen. It is a story of a man who has been in the United States for many years, and his experience was most likely to efface the older. Mr. Viereck has received a letter from Arthur Symonds, who says of 'The House of the Vampires':"

Mrs. Louis Coulson has written a song entitled "Our Leaders" to be sung to the tune of "Italy Around the World," and published in pamphlet form. It is a political campaign. It is dedicated to the leaders in one of the national parties, and their pictures adorn the outside leaves.

## BOOKS

The following is the opening paragraph of a story which appeared in the July issue of one of the most eminent of American magazines; a magazine which has enjoyed a distinguished history.

"Blithe the dabbler though she had been in person, the young woman was this time in the bright glare of personality; she was in the grasp of a document. Two days out from New York, she had presented the evidence of her loyalty to her cousin's readily conjectured assault; and had since then remained immovable. Yet all that she had so suddenly seized was the letter that Eugene Dermody, whom she had met three times, and scarcely given a thought to had sent her, and which she had read only after the steamer had sailed."

And this in a periodical which had the honor of printing Mr. Thackeray's "The Newcomes" and Mr. Du Maurier's "Trilby."

A rather ludicrous circumstance, occurring at a Chinese funeral in Canton, was witnessed not long ago by Frederick A. Stokes Co., the publishers of her new novel, "Holy Orders," have thus secured the only likeness which is available for general use. In order to make it suitable for newspaper reproduction, they have prepared, in addition to the half-tone published in their

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MRS. JULIA FORAKER, WIFE OF THE OHIO SENATOR.

Mrs. Joseph Benson Foraker, the wife of the senior Senator from Ohio, who has become lately notable for alleged entanglements with the Standard Oil efforts to oppose hostile legislation both in Ohio and the national capital, is a charming and splendidly educated woman, Senator and Mrs. Foraker are a most attractive couple, and their home life is said to be ideal. Mrs. Foraker was a Miss Julia Bundy, and she is a daughter of Hon. H. S. Bundy, of Jackson county, Ohio. She and the Senator met when the latter was a very young man. In fact, they were married in 1870, just one year after the Senator had finished his law studies and had been admitted to the bar.

Rosemary Washburn, and published by the Frank Allan Genealogical company, of three West Forty-second street, New York. These brochures are illustrated, printed on hand-made Italian paper, and sold for \$1. Some of the titles announced are: "The Ancestry of the Schermerhorns, Papal Nobility in New York," "The Ghost of the de Pesters," "The Phelps, The Toppings, and Washburn of Ludlow, Vermont."

The volume on Mr. Taft's ancestry shows the Republican candidate for president is of old Massachusetts stock the first American Taft having been one of the founders of Mendon, the Tafts were active in colonial and revolutionary days. Chapters are also given on the Torrey, Rawson, Wilson, Grindall, Tooker, Cheney, and Emerson families, from all of which Mr. Taft descends. He was a cousin of Ralph Waldo Emerson. The seven illustrations include two portraits of Mr. Taft.

"Before Marriage," by Mrs. Adolphe Hoffman, Cloth 25c net. Vir Publishing company, 1394 Land Title building, Philadelphia, Penn. This dainty little volume is addressed by a Christian mother to her son on the eve of his marriage. It gives advice to both the prospective husband and his bride, and its message will prove most helpful in bringing happiness and permanence into the sacred relation upon which they are about to enter.

## MAGAZINES

According to Charles Edward Russell, the famous American journalist, the marriage of the Duke of Marlborough and Miss Vanderbilt was planned for a date that would result in the greatest possible publicity. The anecdote that Mr. Russell relates is one of many touching upon the marriage of American girls to titled foreigners, that he has sprinkled through an unusually timely magazine for the Red Book Magazine for October, entitled "Billions for Dad Blue Blood." The subject of the article is the men of title who lure our girls by the glamor of their heraldic pedigrees. Mr. Russell says of them, based on first hand knowledge, makes rather startling reading. The series that Mr. Russell is writing on international marriages for the Red Book Magazine began in the September issue. In the present October number, the subject takes on a new interest, and the article is worth more than casual consideration.

I believe in a republic, says Mrs. Astor in the November issue, and I believe in a republic in which money has a great deal to say, as in ours. Money represents with us energy and character; it is acquired by brains and by the force of the will. It is the same means. It is well if Europe were imbued with money power—I do not say idealism, that is another matter. American ideas about developing the natural resources of the country and their common-sense notions about work would bring about great things.

## Vast Wealth of "Novel Heroes" Heroine With \$600,000 a Year

Our London Literary Letter.

SPECIAL Correspondence. LONDON, Oct. 1.—One of the authors most talked about just now—but for no very particular reason, perhaps—is Anthony Hope, whose "Great Miss Driver" is seen on the book-stalls. The rise and progress of Anthony Hope is an interesting psychological study. He is a Londoner of the Londoners, and has a love for the metropolis which only Charles Lamb or Dr. Johnson could have equaled. When everybody who is anybody rushes off to the various continental watering-places, Anthony Hope sticks to London, and "may be seen"—as the sensational novels say—strolling about the streets of the city, preferably in the district of the Strand, and just around the corner from Bedford Square, just around the corner from the British museum.

The early days of Anthony Hope found him devoted to legal lore, and he would have followed the sonber profession, but for the fact that he did not "make a hit" when he first began to practice. Having a lot of time on his hands, and no overwhelming rush of clients to seek his legal advice, he

## CASTORIA

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000 a year. In giving all his characters enormous wealth—placing them, as it were, above ordinary vicissitudes—Anthony Hope shows his knowledge of human nature. In these days, existence is so strenuous—and even so—old—for most people that they like to read of lucky mortals who have been raised above want, and the fear of want. This is said to be one of the secrets of Anthony Hope's steady success. People like to read of wealth, and of the heroes and heroines possessed of no end of ready cash. As one of the London critics said, in reviewing this last book of Anthony Hope, "We like the hero, if possible, to be a millionaire. The novel is for many simply the fairy-story grown up."

## BOOKS OF ACTION.

There is a big demand in England just now for books which tell you how to do things. There are no end of works on how to eat, sleep, drink, walk, run and ride. One of the most popular books in the "How" line is Arnold Bennett's "How to Live on Twenty-four Hours a Day." Bennett is a sort of intellectual gymnast, and he preaches the cult of the strenuous. His motto for getting the best out of life is: "Put your best into everything you do." He accuses the London business man of not taking an interest in his daily "office hours" as so much boredom for the mere sake of making bread and butter. Bennett takes the point of view that people should be interested in every task they perform, however minute it may be, and who may benefit from it. The author has won laurels in several lines of endeavor. His books are going well, several of his serials have made a "hit," a number of his short stories have done remarkably well, and his collaborated work with Eden Philpotts has won him fame.

## BENNETT'S NEW PLAYS.

Quite a number of Bennett's plays have been "accepted," though, as yet, not one of them has been produced. The other day, in the course of an interview, he remarked: "Won't it be a funny thing when several of those accepted plays are all produced by different theaters at the same time? There will be an epidemic of Bennett plays from Aldwych to Chelsea." Bennett seems one of those all-around writers whose literary output is on the factory order—not at to quality, of course, but simply as to enormous quantity. In most of the "smart" periodicals of the day his name figures prominently, and his new book, with the title already mentioned, is rapidly going through several editions. He moves in what is considered very select society, and is a familiar figure at the famous fashionable resorts on the continent. Monte Carlo and the Riviera are his haunts. Strange to say, he has little affection for "real life" as such, and frequents these places mostly for the purpose of studying types, which he analyzes with relentless insight. It may safely be predicted that if Arnold Bennett keeps up his present "output" of books, serials, short stories, critiques, fantasies, reviews and plays, he will, before long be one of the most talked about writers in England.

## MRS HUMPHRY WARD.

It is rather curious that Mrs. Humphry Ward and Miss Beatrice Harraden should have recently entered the novelistic arena as literary antagonists. Miss Beatrice Harraden, since she wrote her famous "Ship That Passed the Night," has done little to arouse public interest, but her latest novel, "Interplay," has attracted attention. Mainly she deals with the subject of the suffragette and has written a book that puts the case of that much advertised person very strongly. Mrs. Humphry Ward, on the other hand, minimizes the suffragette and deals with the coming of radical socialism in England. Strange to say, and with one feminine inconsistency, all of Miss Harraden's votes and characters fall in love, and there is a strong interplay of passion throughout. Hence the title. Though the women are lined up in battle against the "sexes," they are trying to defeat the men at the election polls, they ultimately succumb to "Prince Charming," when he presents himself. Mrs. Ward, on the other hand, draws a strong picture of inter-day politics, and takes an altogether pessimistic view of life. The two books, issued just now, are signs of the times, and indicate a kind of political upheaval that do not brighten the outlook of the near future in England.

## IMPOVERISHED PUBLISHERS.

Publishers all over the country are complaining of "bad times." Various causes are assigned for this—the general business depression, the approaching general election, and other mundane matters. Several book exporters take the view that a veritable revolution is coming before long in the fact that people will not spend \$1.25 and \$1.50 on books any longer. "If a buyer cannot get a book for about 25 cents," said a bookseller disgustedly to me recently, "he passes it up. He has to have it, he goes to a public library, or picks it up second-hand." The coming of the cheap book in England is certain, and it may not be down as low as 25 cents, but many publishers seem to think that the day of the \$1.50 volume is over.

CHARLES OGDENS.

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