

LITERARY LIFE

POEMS EVERYBODY SHOULD KNOW.

THE TRAPPISTS.

With spade in hand, and death upon his mind,
The holy Trappist, solemn day by day
Goes forth in sweep of bail and sun and wind
To dig a moment of his life away.

Turning the sod, he stares into the face
Of stern Tomorrow, waiting in the clay,
And in the chrysalis of Time and Place
He buries all the ghosts of Yesterday.

We think it strange that one who lives with Death
And daily digs his pit can be so brave;
That one can pray with gladness in his breath
Whose life is but a shadow of the grave.

And yet with buoyant step and singing voice
We pass the silent, stooping Trappist by,
Our life as brief as his, as vain our choice
To choose the when and where and how to die.

Each day we tramp the picket-ground of Death,
With random guides of Goodness and of Sin,
Nor know which step shall tomb us, nor what breath
Shall dew the marble path to close us in.

No round of watching but our eyes more dim;
No kiss of love but wears the lips away,
The thrill of blushing flesh and shudder grim
Return us nearer to the senseless clay.

Trappists are we—but happy Trappists all—
Preparing for the end amidst the throng;
The shroud we weave is laughter—to the call
Of death we give a light reply of song.

So do we live—and better do we live—
To give to Life the joy of all her years,
To dig our graves with spades of gold, and give
To Death alone the silence and the tears!

—Aloysius Coll in *Ainslie's Magazine*.

NOTES.

A dainty holiday volume of the season is from the pen of Mrs. Thomas Weir, a long resident of Salt Lake and one of the most active of workers in local literary clubs. It is published under the title of "Klondike" and contains a number of poems written by Mrs. Weir at various times, some of them having been published in various eastern magazines under her own name. They include a wide range of subjects, including Christmas poems, poems of the west, love poems and other dainty bits of sentiment, while a charming home note is reached in such poems as "Starlight," one of the truest examples of poetry in the volume. The binding, paper, and general design are all exceedingly artistic, and the frontispiece is an excellent engraving of the author. The book will make an excellent holiday offering and will also be a pleasure to its local audience. The book is published by Ivan Sommerville & Co.

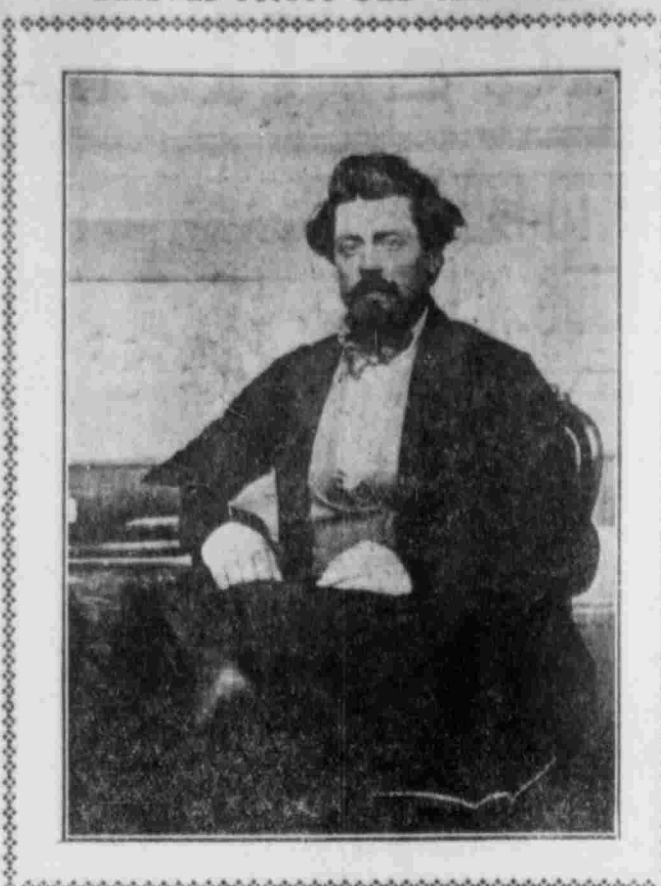
Like a reminder of other days is the announcement of a new volume of "Clay" by Guy Standing in the role of Charles Steele, the departure from the book is worth noting. Exactly how it affects the development was explained the other day to the Harpers, who published the original novel, by way of comparing the points of view of author and playwright. Mr. Eugene V. Prescott, in his stage version, allows three years to elapse between the first and third scenes. In the book the period is eight months, and this extension of time opens up the avenue for everything that follows. Steele is shown in the third scene, having been in the past, his memory a blank beyond the time when he awoke to find himself in Portugal. For three years he has lived thus, and in the new environment he has become a new man. Also—and this is the point on which the whole play hinges—he has fallen in love with Rosalie Eganville, who is beloved by her. In the book love comes slowly, and after Steele has recovered his memory and is in full possession of a knowledge of the past. By introducing the attachment between Steele and Rosalie, while the former is still unconscious of his previous life, Mr. Prescott has, of course, immensely simplified the situation. Since the limitations of the drama necessitate the selection of one dominant motive, the effect of the love motive seems a natural and inevitable choice.

Mr. Frederick Trevor Hill, who was at work this summer in foreign literatures on a quest for original sources of material, spent part of the time at Hindhead, England, which writers have apparently always found attractive. In the immediate vicinity lived Lord Tennyson, George Eliot, and other literary figures. The atmosphere of the place was most inspiring, and it was here that Hill wrote many of his best works. The book "The Trappists" is a testament to the power of the imagination and the ability to find beauty in the most ordinary of things.

The spectacle of a man and more particularly of a scientist, looking at a London ball on a night of arching rain with a company of men and women who were both intellectual-looking and well-dressed, and were engaged in a talk on the immortality of the soul, to give place to the cry that this is an altogether needless affair. This was the situation when Sir Oliver Lodge recently addressed an audience in Memorial Hall, London, with a scientific plea for belief in immortality. Men dropped in on their way from business or came in from the suburbs. Half an hour before the appointed time the doorway was crowded, the steps and even the window ledges were crowded—this to hear an inflexible scientist say that any idea that the body can be restored in its particles at the end of the world is a notion that must be discarded as a fiction before any reasonable proof or hope of immortality can be offered at all. Moreover, as Sir Oliver is said to be not so much a speaker as a writer, the audience had no brilliant entertainment in store—nothing but the force of the idea itself. Only recently Sir Oliver Lodge prepared "The Substance of Faith," published in the country through the Harpers, which is said to make convincing appeal to minds which discredit all theories that involve violation of a natural law, and are yet seeking some ground of belief that they are immortal.

Mrs. Humphrey Ward's novel, "The Marriage of William Ashe," has been translated into French under the title "Le Mariage d'Ashe." As the French describes it, "c'est l'histoire d'une jeune femme romantique et fantasque, qui, par ses caprices déconcertants, scandalise les salons de la société londonienne et qui, au préalable, a été fascinée par un inexorable destin, au-devant de la catastrophe finale." Contemporary with this literary reminiscence of Mrs. Ward's famous novel are its

LEAVES FROM OLD ALBUMS.



ISAAC GROO IN 1862.

This picture of Mr. Groo, who held various city positions in early days, shows him when he was watermaster and when he had donned high boots to battle with one of City Creek's periodical rampages. Mr. Groo was one of the pioneer stalwarts, and filled a busy and honorable life in the development of Salt Lake. He was the father of Byron Groo, cashier of the Utah Commercial and Savings Bank.

Two dramatic productions, one by a good New York stock company, and the other soon to have its premiere in London from the revised version just completed by the author and Miss Margaret Mayo, William Ashe seems to have sustained the original interest that greeted it when it was run as a serial in Harper's, perhaps more than Lady Rose's Daughter. Since these two were introduced, Mrs. Ward has published "The Career of the Test," "The Diana Mallory," now running serially, like the other two, in Harper's.

BOOKS.

Davidson's Practical Zoology, by Alvin Davidson, A. M., Ph. D., professor of biology in Lafayette College, American Book Company, New York.

This is an elementary text-book, treating of the structure, life history, and relations of animals, and forming a course which may be adapted for a half or a whole year. The numerous forms and phases of animal life have been presented in a scientific yet simple and interesting manner. Directions as to methods, equipment, and collection of material are given in a chapter on classification. Then typical forms of the various orders of invertebrates and vertebrates are briefly described, and illustrated by numerous photographs and drawings. The last part of the book treats of the development and senses of animals, parasitism, vanishing species, protection from enemies, and origin of diverse forms. A comparatively small amount of laboratory work is indicated, and the animals to be used are such as may be secured almost anywhere. The book is admirably suited to inform the student of the interesting topics, among others, as the interdependence of species, the part played by insects in transmitting disease, and the meaning of the animal architecture seen on every side.

"The Story of Two Boys," retold by Clifton Johnson, American Book Company, New York.

Forming one of the series of Eclectic Readings, this book is suited for the third and fourth years in school. The story of Sanford and Merlon, which it is based, has long been recognized as one of the first among the classics of childhood. It is here retold in a modernized form, free from the unnecessary digressions and tedious minutiae which mar the original tale. Mr. Johnson has omitted whatever seemed unnecessary to the story, and the result is a charming narrative, and the result is a charming narrative, and the result is a charming narrative.

"Friends and Cousins," by Abbie Farwell Brown, is a sequel to Miss Brown's "Brothers and Sisters," and all readers of that story will be eager to have the continuation. It carries forward the story of the young people, Kenning and Rose, during the summer following the one covered by the first book. They return to the island, and the story of the summer follows.

"The Old Peabody Pew," a Christmas romance by Kate Douglas Wiggin, author of "The Birds' Christmas Carol," etc., is a story of Christmas and of a country courtship begun and ended in the Old Peabody Pew, and has the touch of a story which inspires all of Mrs. Wiggin's best work and has her enduring popularity. The scene is laid in a New England village and opens with a meeting of the Dorcas society in animated discussion of the ways and means of preparing for the coming Christmas festival. It is told with the simplicity and humor which belong to Mrs. Wiggin alone. Notwithstanding some touching scenes, it is a happy book with a happy ending, and it is all so true and simple as to appeal universally to old and young.

Mrs. Alice Barber Stephens has furnished some characteristic illustrations, printed in tint; each page of the text is decorated with marginal designs in colors, and the book has an attractive pictorial cover.—Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.

"The Jesso Bonquet," author of "The Wine-Press," etc., the latest novel by Mrs. Burr (Anna Robinson Brown) abounds in clever conversations, satirical remarks, and pointed satirical touches. It combines in uncommon degree sound literary quality and a sense of humor.

GET A COPY OF OUR ALMANAC for 1908 from your Druggist, Grocer or General Dealer before the supply is exhausted. It is absolutely free and contains much interesting and instructive reading, such as household recipes, jokes, statistics, etc., and many voluntary testimonials proving that the celebrated

HOSTETTERS' STOMACH BITTERS can cure Headache, Poor Appetite, Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Constipation and Colic. Be sure to try a bottle.

Old Manuscripts that Shed New Light on Kidd's Piracy

Our London Literary Leader.

Special Correspondence.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—Some interesting manuscripts have been discovered at Welbeck Abbey, the seat of the Duke of Portland, whose titles and estates are being entailed in the sensational Druece case, which throw some new light on the career of Capt. Kidd. They are mostly letters from the Earl of Bellmont, who was sent out by William III. as governor of New York and Massachusetts with special instructions to suppress the pirates infesting the Atlantic. He supplied Kidd with a vessel of 40 guns and a commission under the great seal both to act against the French and seize the pirates. Kidd, as everybody knows, for a victim to temptation and turned pirate himself.

There was much suspicion at the time that Lord Bellmont was really backing Kidd in the pirate venture and was not at all averse to making money out of it, as long as his own parliamentary and mercantile business was not disturbed. Kidd, in his "test" which is included in the documents, says:

"The ship being bought, rigged, manned and armed, the 'Adventure Galley,' the Lord Bellmont encouraged me to proceed, by assuring me that the noble lords above mentioned (the Duke of Devonshire and the Earl of Sandwich) should with all complaints that should be made in England and himself would prevent all collateral reading or child-like way, while the progress of Diana's love affairs and the tragic crumbling of her grandfather's character under stress of temptation held the reader with unusual power. With frontispiece.—Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

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