

# LITERATURE

## POEMS EVERYBODY SHOULD KNOW

### WHEN GOD IS NEAR.

Though clouds arise to chill the heart,  
And fill it with despair,  
While happiness will soon depart,  
As life seems so unfair.

Keep hope, fear not, for God is near  
To drive the clouds away,  
And when His soothing voice we hear,  
Will dawn a brighter day.

The clouds will quickly disappear  
Beneath God's sunshine bright,  
For faith beholds our Father near,  
In darkness as in light.

—Martha Shepard, Lippincott, Moorestown, N. J.

### TOASTS.

As half in shade, and half in sun,  
This world along its path advances,  
Oh! may that side the sun shines on,  
Be all that ever meets thy glances;  
May Time, who casts his blight on all,  
And dally dooms some joy to death,  
On thee let years so gently fall  
They shall not crush one flower beneath.

—Thomas Moore.

Be not like a stream that brawls  
Loud with shallow waterfalls,  
But in quiet self-control  
Link together soul and soul.

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

## NOTES

Harold MacGrath, whose new novel, "The Lure of the Mask," has just appeared, was born 37 years ago in Syracuse, N. Y. He was educated in Syracuse schools, and made his start in life on a Syracuse newspaper—the Herald. In 1891 he went to Chicago and worked there as a paragrapher on the Evening Mail. A group of brilliant young newspaper men were around him—Frank Pixley, George Ade, Eugene Field, George Horton and Kirk La Shelle—all unknown at that time except Field. From Chicago MacGrath went to Albany, and from Albany to New York, and finally returned to Syracuse, to settle down to the pleasant business of writing entertaining fiction. In 10 years he has produced six novels: "Arms and the Woman," "The Puppet Crown," "The Grey Cloak," "The Man on the Box," "Half a Rogue," and now "The Lure of the Mask." Besides this, he has written two novelettes, "The Princess Elopee" and "Hearts and Masks," two books of short stories, "Enchantment" and "The Best Man," and an opera, "The Watteau Shepherdess." Many of the incidents in "The Lure of the Mask" are autobiographic. The scenes of the story are laid, for the most part, in Italian cities. Mr. MacGrath visited Italy in 1906, and again 1907, and has woven his impressions charmingly into the plot.

"Mr. Crowe's Career," which is easily the best selling book in America at the present time, is also reported as among the leaders in England. Mr. Churchill has always been a favorite with the English critics, and even "The Spectator," usually none too tolerant of American literary methods, declares him "one of the most salutary influences in modern fiction." With regard to the enormous circulation of "Mr. Crowe's Career" and Mr. Churchill's other novels, the Spectator further says: "The gigantic circulation of some writers is a portent; the fact that Mr. Churchill commands a wide circle of readers in England and America restores one's belief in the sanity of the public."

The Macmillan company announces Mr. Robert Herrick's new novel, "Togetherness," for publication early in July. It is a story of the lives of married people—for Mr. Herrick reverses the old romantic formula, and his book begins instead of ends with a wedding. It is the first novel he has written since "The Memoirs of an American Citizen," published about three years ago.

Five years ago, while traveling in Provence, Mr. Gellert Burgess visited the strange old deserted and ruined city of Les Baux, near Arles, having become interested in the history of the place, he bought a little piece of land beyond the Chateau for only \$50. He has been unmercifully fished by his friends ever since about this estate, which, though surrounded by olive orchards, contains nothing visible to the eye except a few old walls and scrub pines. This spring, however, Mr. Burgess set laborers to work excavating on his land, and already two Roman tombs of the second century have been unearthed, affording ample corroboration to Mr. Burgess' surmise that the place contained antiquities. One grave contained about a dozen pieces of terra cotta, urns for funeral ashes, dishes, bowls, etc., and cooking utensils for the dead. Mr. Burgess is now abroad and is to begin in June a systematic exploration of this terrace, which proves to be an old burying ground. The fact that, at Les Baux, only a quarter of a mile distant, remains of the first and second centuries are plentifully found, including gold and silver coins of the epoch of Julius Caesar, makes Mr. Burgess' find especially interesting. He has called his place La Trouvailles, which is proven for "Treasure Trove." It is this property which Mr. Burgess has jocosely alluded to in the whimsical introduction to his "Maxims of Methusalem," though it is but fair to add that, at the time, nothing had been found to warrant his description of the tablets of stone there in described.

Mr. Swinburne since finishing "The Duke of Gandia" has been busy with the final revision of what is to be his greatest work in prose, "The Age of Shakespeare." There are many bookmen who contend that, significant as the Swinburnian genius has been in the world of poetry, it will have a preponderating influence in the annals of

criticism. Meanwhile the poet, although 71 years old, enjoys excellent health and spirits, and works with unabated vigor.

Robert Hichens' fascinating story, "A Spirit in Prison," continues its serial publication in Harper's Weekly. That Mr. Hichens' vivid imagination and arresting style are more potent than ever is evidenced by an absorbing and magical passage in which a strange Egyptian talks to Hermione, the tragic central figure of the story, of Destiny and the Desert—two themes which, in Mr. Hichens' hands, are familiarly compelling. Here is a bit of the dialogue: "The sea teaches, but the desert teaches more."

"What does it teach?"

"Madame must know if madame has ever been to the desert."

"I don't think I should ever learn the lesson of the desert," said Hermione. "Perhaps only those who belong to it can learn from it."

"If it is so, it is said—for the others," said the Egyptian.

"They seek, I suppose," he continued. "They rebel, they fight, they try to avoid things, they try to bring things about. They lift up their hands to disperse the grains of the sand storm. They lift up their voices to be heard by the wind from the south. They stretch forth their hands to gather the mirage into their bosom. They follow the drum that is beaten among the dunes. They are afraid of life because they know it has two kinds of gifts; and one they snatch at, and one they would refuse. And they are afraid still more of the door that all must enter. Sultans and nomads—he who has washed himself, and must be threefold purged, and he who is a leper and is eaten by flies. So it is."

According to the lists in the Bookman, Lord Cromer's "Modern Egypt" was one of the six best selling books in New York for the month of April. Lord Cromer's book has held this position in England ever since it was published, but it is unusual to find an expensive and serious work of this character in the American list. The first position in this category, as well as in the English list for the month, was held by Frank Danby's "The Heart of a Child."

## BOOKS

It is no small achievement to write two novels a year and find a constantly increasing public eagerly awaiting your next story. No present-day novelist has more steadily progressed in the American reading public than E. Phillips Oppenheim, whose new novel, "The Avenger," will be brought out by Little, Brown & Co., his American publishers, May 18.

From romance which is chiefly sensational in its appeal, Mr. Oppenheim has evolved to prose fiction packed with the real interests and strenuous problems of our complex modern life. Readers of Mr. Oppenheim's books know that they may always expect an original plot, worked out with ingenuity and skill, exciting situations, and a soupçon of love interest, with a soupçon of love interest, with a soupçon of love interest.

"The Avenger" is a novel in which he has exercised all the powers of his fertile imagination, yet with a restraint which keeps his story well within the bounds of reason and logic.

The theme is based on the efforts of a young Englishman to shield a mysterious girl from suspicion of a murder, in which she is apparently implicated, and the endeavors of some half-dozen individuals who are seeking, for various reasons, the solution of the mystery.

Political intrigues, private revenges, and personal ambition form an intricate tangle of affairs, which, with exceeding cunning, the author gradually unravels, giving the reader an abundance of entertainment in the process.

"The Avenger" is a worthy successor of "The Great Secret," "A Lost Leader," "The Mafeking," and the other popular novels that have placed Mr. Oppenheim at the head of entertaining writers," to quote one critic.

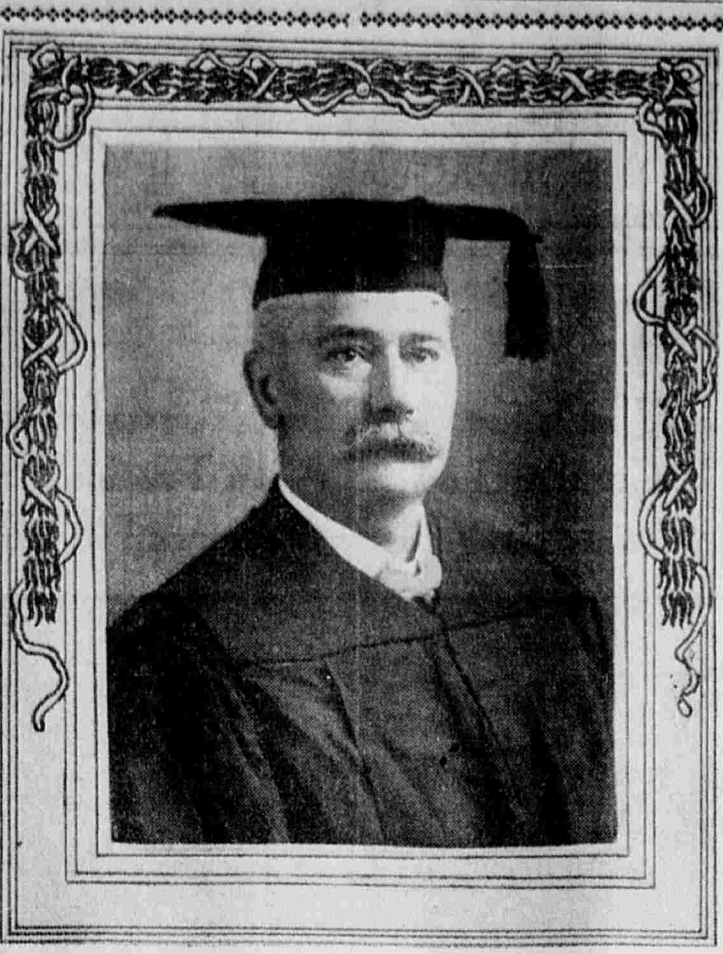
Some years ago was published a little book entitled "Everyday Etiquette," by Marion Harland. It was favorably noticed as an excellent manual of manners, written without prudishness or of the snob. The only criticism to which it was subjected was the claim that it did not cover all the multifarious phases of the social life of the woman of today, and particularly of the young woman. In order to meet this objection a new edition has just been issued containing the following additional chapters: After Six O'clock, The Dinner Party, The Education of a Young Girl, The Young Man and the Young Woman, Coeducation Socially Considered, The Matter of Dress, Etiquette of Traveling, The Woman's Club, Charities Public and Private, The Woman With a Maid, and The Woman in Business Relations. These eleven new chapters make the once little manual a big book, justifying the new title, "Marion Harland's Complete Etiquette." It is throughout a good, urbane and practical volume, authoritative in its description of social usage and "good form," entertaining for its pleasant style and frequent anecdotes, convenient on account of its elaborate index. The Bobbs-Merrill company, June, 1908.

## MAGAZINES

Ainslee's for July has some remarkably interesting features, which make it the most prominent among current magazines.

First of all, of course, is a new serial story by May Sinclair, who made herself famous as the author of "The Divine Fire." Her latest story, "The Immortal Moment," it has been the good fortune of Ainslee's to secure, and judging from the opening chapters it is one which will prove of intense interest, especially to women, being, as it obviously is, a story about a woman.

Next in importance is the complete novel by Henry C. Royland, called "An American Pasha," an exciting



DR. HERBERT S. PYNE.

Dr. Herbert S. Pyne is a Utah county man who has won marked honor while in the east studying his chosen profession of medicine. Dr. Pyne was born in 1862 in Provo. He has just returned from Washington, where he has completed a course in medicine and surgery at the Georgetown university. Following this course he took special study in Chicago under some of the foremost eastern experts. Before leaving Provo to study, Dr. Pyne was city recorder and previously had been active in the political life of the Garden city.

and dramatic account of the adventures of an ex-officer in the American army.

Among the short stories is a characteristic one of O. Henry, which he calls "Buried Treasure," and being by O. Henry it will be enough to command a wide reading. Mrs. Wilson Woodrow has another of her delightful short stories, called "Rudolf's Little Playmate." Steel Williams contributes one of his typical western tales, "A Blackstone of the Bad Lands," confirming the impression he has already made that he knows what he writes about. A short story by Anne Warner, "When Heaven Touched the Earth," is another special feature. Virginia Tracy, who has made a study of conditions of stage life, has a most interesting and dramatic tale called "Babes in the Wilderness."

James Hopper has an absorbing story called "My Mission" one with a profound heart interest and a very unusual outcome. Other short stories are "The Inexperience of Mrs. Keyser," by Jane W. Guthrie, "As They Are," by Jeannette Cooper, "Muslin or the Mercedes," by Torrance Derrin, and poems by Clinton Scott.

## Big Prices Paid For Mss. Despite Depression in Trade

Our London Literary Letter.

LONDON, June 17.—Everyone is complaining of the depression in business, and yet big prices are still paid in London for scraps of interesting literary MSS. One of the most astonishing sales quite recently was the very commonplace book of Mrs. Thrale which brought in the huge sum of \$10,250. Mrs. Thrale, it will be remembered, was the friend and hostess of Dr. Johnson; and, while doubtless a worthy lady, no one would ever suspect her autograph in these days to command a cool ten thousand. What adds not a little to the mystery of the affair is the fact that in Mrs. Thrale's book nothing is brought out concerning the immortal doctor.

While Mrs. Thrale's MSS. brought the surprising figure mentioned, the signature of John Milton realized \$1,610. At the same time an autograph of the poet Burns brought \$50. The Milton signature is a curious one, as it was made when the poet was only 16 years old, and is attached to a marriage convention made in 1623. This price is considered a good one for a Milton autograph, and it was doubtless paid in view of the forthcoming Milton celebration in December. This year will be the 300th anniversary of the poet, and the British academy intends to make of the occasion a memorable one. Sir Maude Thompson, president of the academy, is appealing to educational bodies to assist in the celebration. The lord mayor of London, the London county council, Oxford and Cambridge universities, St. Paul's school—whom Milton attended—and the trustees of Milton's cottage at Chalfont wish to make this a "Milton year."

### MILTON'S COTTAGE.

Milton's cottage at Chalfont St. Giles is a place of great interest, as it is still kept in the state in which it was left by the poet. He lived there for a number of years and wrote "Paradise Lost" there. A national trust now keeps the cottage in order and there is a good collection of Milton books and relics on view. Among the most interesting specimens of the latter are the receipts for the money which the publisher paid Milton for "Paradise Lost." These receipts were long kept by Milton's widow, and finally became national heirlooms on her death. Milton only received \$75 for his immortal epic, and even this sum was not paid down at once, but was distributed over a considerable time in small payments. Of course, in those days, \$75 was worth a good deal more than it is just now, but it compares rather effectively with the \$1,600 just paid for a mere Milton signature.

### HOUSE WILL BE DECORATED.

As Milton was born in London—at a house in Broad street, Chapside, in 1608—of course the authorities of London will be decorated and one of Milton's plays will be produced by the students of St. Paul's school. At Chalfont, the University will produce his

any form. It looks very much to me as if the demand for the \$1.50 book had seen its day. Several of these publishers are debating the bringing out of all their books in much cheaper editions, and perhaps, the next year or two will see a revolution in the book trade. There is a marked tendency for cheap books, ranging from 12 cents to about 50 cents, and when you ask more than the latter figure for almost any book, the "man on the street" hesitates before putting his hand into his pocket. Some people blame the Times Book club for the position, but I do not think it is due to any one cause. I think the publication of magazine literature has cheapened the price of books. I do not regret the situation as a reader, for the trade exactly; only the publishers will have to adapt themselves to the demand for cheap books. In the near future you will see an immense number of the best books by modern authors on the market at cheap prices. There will be larger sales, and heavier editions, at the low rate. This does not follow that there will be less money for authors, or lower profits for publishers; it simply means that, with the great increase of cheap books, the circulation will be far greater and there will be even a better chance for an author to reach a larger public than there is at present. If the book trade refuses to bring down its prices—or, almost, it might be said, to cut them in half—and the public do not rise to the old figures, then, of course, there will be heavy losses all around, and much suffering, both to authors and booksellers who follow. From reading the "signs of the times," however, I think publishers are going to take the hint.

"Another somewhat curious sign of the times is the demand for more serious literature than formerly. There are a good many publishers who are dropping their novel list, or, if they buy novels, are demanding that they shall deal with more serious life-problems than are treated by the usual run of novels. While this will, perhaps, necessitate the dropping of conventional 'novelty' themes, it will, in my opinion, elevate the tone of public reading. Quite a number of large publishing houses are making plans for the publication of serious works on these lines; and I am not personally sorry to see it."

CHARLES OGDENS.

## NEW LIBRARY BOOKS.

The following 14 volumes will be added to the public library, Monday morning, June 29, 1908:

### MISCELLANEOUS.

Bancroft—Life and Letters, 2 vols.  
Kirk—Papers on Health.  
McMaster—People of the U. S., vol. 6, New Hampshire—Probate Records, vol. 1.

Page—Old Dominion.  
Rauschenbusch—Christianity and the Social Crisis.  
Salsbury—Career of a Journalist.  
Thompson—Cost, Capitalization and Estimated Values of American Railways.

Winthrop—Journals, 2 vols.

### FICTION.

Danby—Heart of a Child.  
Davis—Vera the Medium.  
Fletcher—Mothers in Israel.

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