Literature

POEMS EVERYBODY SHOULD KNOW.

LITTLE BREECHES.

I don't go much on religion,
I never ain't had no show;
But I've got a middlin' tight grip, sir,
On the handful o' things I know.
I don't pan out on the prophets
And free-will, and that sort of thing—
But I b'lieve in God and the angels
Ever sence one night last spring.

I come into town with some turnips,
And my little Gabe came along—
No four-year-old in the county
Could beat him for pretty and strong,
Peart and chippy and sassy,
Always ready to swear and fight—
And I'd larnt him to chaw terbacker
Jest to keep his milk-teeth white.

The snow come down like a blanket
As I passed by Taggart's store;
I went in for a jug of molasses
And left the team at the door.
They scared at something and started—
I heard one little squall
And hell to split over the prairie
Went team, Little Breeches and all.

Hell to split over the prairie!
I was almost froze with fear;
But we rousted up some torches
And searched for 'em far and near.
At last we struck hosses and wagon
Snowed under a soft white mound,
Upset, dead beat—but of little Gabe
No hide nor hair was found.

And here all hepes soured on me,
Of my fellow critter's also—
I jes flopped down on my marrow bones,
Crotch deep in the snow, and prayed.
By this the torches was played out,
And me and Ingul Parr
Went off for some wood to a sheepfold
That he said was somewhar thar.

We found it at last and a little shed
Where they shut up the lambs at night.
We looked in and seen them huddled thar,
So warm and sleepy and white,
And thar set little Breeches and chirped,
As peart as ever you see,
"I want a chaw of terbacker,
And that's what the matter is me."

How did he git thar? Angels.
He could never have walked in that storm!
They jest recessed down and toted him
To what it was cafe and warm.
And I think that saving a little child
And fetching him to his own,
Is a durned sight better business
Than loafing around the throne.
—John Hay.

NOTES.

There will be a new Red-Kegger novel in the fall published by Messrs. Dodd, Mead & Co. The title of the new story is "The Man from Red Keg." This story is laid in the same country as Mr. Thwing's former novels, and the characters belong to the same type of Americans, rough, homely people, with many sterling qualities.

Mr. Jack London's new book, "The War of the Classes," which The Macmillan company will issue at once, is described as a collection of essays dealing with the livest subject of today—the world-wide revolt of the working class. This revolt has assumed the form of a struggle between the capitalist class and the working class. The prize for which they struggle is the world, its wealth, power and governments. It is a battle of ideas, of religion, of philosophy, of politics, and of physical prowess. Clubs, bricks, injunctions, gatling guns, infernal machines, economic arguments, ethical appeals, biological demonstrations, and scientific and philosophic contentions, are a few of the weapons of the fighters. No more bizarre, no more earnest, no more deep-seated and widespread revolution has ever occurred. The aim of the essays is to analyze the situation, and to present it in its elementary aspect.

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Miss Elizabeth Robin's new novel, "A Dark Lantern," has gone promptly into its second large edition. The novel is much admired for its picture of London society, but it is more especially liked on account of the power of its description of the love affair between Garth and Katherine, and for its emotional charm.

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An article in the Bookman of curious interest is that by Jas. H. Collins on "Literature and Cigar Making." It is an account of the reading aloud in the Cuban cigar factory, and gives items of information that will be a surprise to many. The paid reader in these factories reads for about three hours every afternoon, and gets a salary of from $20 to $60 a week. The reading takes in the selected news of the day, translated from the New York newspapers, and books of fiction and poetry. The latter are selected by a ballot of the tabaqueros, and cover a pretty wide range. Among English novels selected are 'Vanity Fair,' 'Oliver Twist,' 'A Tale of Two Cities,' and stories by Wilkie Collins and Hugh Conway. 'Don Quixote' is read every year. Poetry is not neglected, and Byron in particular is a constant favorite.

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Rex E. Beach, author of the book of Alaskan and Western stories, "Pardners," is one of the few men who have crossed the Katmai Pass. Katmai is considered one of the most dangerous passes in Alaska, and the number of men who have perished in attempting to cross it reaches near to 100. Mr. Beach went into Alaska overland from Seattle, in 1900, and his route made it necessary for him to cross Katmai. The worst danger lay in the cold and the high winds, which under certain conditions rushed through the pass at hurricane speed. Beach and his two companions camped below the pass for several days, waiting for an opportunity to dash through. The wind subsided, the journey was begun, and all went well until the party were just at the ridge of the divide. Then the hurricane of wind and snow began again, and Beach and his companions had the fight of their lives. It took the last ounce of muscle and the last atom of energy to reach safety. A few days previously, they heard, five men had lost their lives in an attempt to get through. Mr. Beach looks upon that adventure as the most thrilling event of all his three years' experience in Alaska.

John Lane company, the Bodley Head, is the full name of the incorporated publishing house in New York formerly the American branch of the English house. Mr. Rutger Bleecher Jewett, the vice president of the new company, is the managing director. Associated with him on the board of directors are, Mr. Spencer Trask, Mr. Robert W. DeForest, and Mr. Acosta Nicholas. The new company will follow the general style of publications already associated with the name of the Bodley Head, and plan to extend and broaden the scope of the International Studio, which has already become established as the standard art magazine of the country.

The appearance in the June McClure's of Miss Helen Keller's "Apology for Going to College," is a reminder of the fact that her book is being translated into a dozen tongues, including Russian, Bohemian, Roumanian, Hungarian, Finnish, Danish, Swedish and Japanese.

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Mr. John Luther Long, the author of "Madame Butterfly," has completed the manuscript of a volume of short stories, which the Macmillan company have in preparation for early issue.

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The Macmillan company are publishing three of their most important and popular books of the season during July—"At the Sign of the Fox," by the author of "The Garden of a Commuter's Wife," Maurice Hewlett's new novel, "The Fool Errant," and Robert Herrick's "Memoirs of an American Citizen." July is generally regarded as an unfavorable month for the publication of an important novel, or any novel for that matter; yet it so happens that this firm has issued during July in past years several of its novels which have scored the greatest success, for instance, "Richard Carvel," "The Crisis," and "The Virginian."

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Ray Stannard Baker's reputation as a contributor of special articles to McClure's has grown big enough to overshadow his earlier name as a writer of fiction. The reading public was reminded of his story-telling by the appearance in Collier's of "Lettridge," one of the prize competition stories. Mr. Baker has found still further encouragement to return to fiction in the following letter from a New Jersey small boy: "Just a little while ago I was reading some old McClure's and I read the story of 'Capturing a Confederate Mail,' about the civil war and I want to no if you would write some more."

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E. P. Dutton & Co. announce the last complete novel by George Gissing, "Will Warburton." The manuscript was found among his papers at the time of his death. It is in the fashion of his earlier work and describes the career of a young man who is suddenly thrown on his own resources and obliged to earn his living. The plot is in many ways unique and is in the field in which the author became known.

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Brentano's are about to issue an American edition of "The House of Sin," translated from the French of Marcelle Tinayre by A. Smyth. T. P.'s Weekly of London says of this book: "This is the title of the last and most remarkable book of the writer who signs herself 'Marcelle Tinayre.' She has hitherto never reached anything like the level of her present work—a work which places her among the half-dozen foremost living novelists. For this is not merely a remarkable but a great book."

BOOKS.

In "Religion: A Criticism and a Forecast" (McClure-Phillips) G. Lowes Dickinson discusses Christianity and the established churches, not in the light of divine inspraton but of tenable logic. The reception that the orthodox clergy has given his book indicates among leaders in modern churches a markedly tolerant breadth of view. The pastor of a large Chicago congregation writes the publishers: "I am sure that the end and aim of religion will be furthered by the general drift and tone of this book. It will have done good work if it only succeeds in leading men to think and inquire for themselves." Though a few among the ministers who have spoken of the book declare themselves unable to go quite the length of Mr. Dickinson's conclusions, the tone of their comment is in every instance unbigotedly appreciative.

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"The Master Mummer" is the title of a new novel by that popular English writer, E. Phillips Oppenheim, whose previously published stories, "Mysterious Mr. Sabin," "Anna, the Adventuress," and "A Prince of Sinners," have been widely read. Mr. Oppenheim knows how to keep his readers thoroughly entertained, and this new story will be counted among his most successful mysteries. It has an ingenious plot, and a steady stream of romantic and dramatic incident, with pretty touches of sentiment. The story opens with the rescue of a charming girl from a wicked baronet. Thereafter the rescuers have work enough for their hands and wits in defending Isobel de Sorrens from her enemies, who are persons in high places, entirely unscrupulous and audacious. The description of Isobel's happy life in the studio with her three self-appointed guardians, the mystery that surrounds her, her strange experiences, and her ultimate fate, are all skilfully set forth, and will be found of absorbing interest to those who love a story of action and romance. In construction, management, style and variety of incident, "The Master Mummer" is one of the best stories of its kind that has appeared.—Boston: Little, Brown & Co.

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In the first chapter of his book, "Alaska and the Klondike," J. S. McLain gives a very optimistic summing up of the resources and prospects of that country. "In a nutshell, then," he says, "my observation and inquiry have fully persuaded me that Alaska is a wonderfully rich country—rich in minerals, rich in timber, rich in agricultural possibilities, rich in fisheries. When Secy. Seward purchased Alaska from Russia in 1867 for $7,200,000, the the anti-expansionists of that period ridiculed the transaction as a piece of supreme folly. . . . The commerce of Alaska for the year ending June 30, 1903, amounted to over $21,000,000, not including the gold output, which would add nearly $7,000,000 more. It is officially stated that since Alaska became American territory it has exported furs, fish and gold in about equal values to the amount of $15,000,000, while investments of American capital in Alaska have reached $25,000,000. That this is only a small beginning of what is to follow in the not far distant future is my firm belief." The book abounds in valuable and interesting information, and should be widely read. McClure, Phillips are the publishers.

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Saturday Sermons.

WRITTEN FOR THE DESERET NEWS BY ELBERT HUBBARD.

I bow my head to the stepmother who loves into manhood and womanhood whom another has loved into life. She must have a great heart already expanded by love to do this.

The fool who wears the cap and bells is not malicious. Stupid people may think he is, because his language is charged with lightning's flash; but these to the people who do not know the difference between an incubator and an egg plant. Neither Shakespeare nor any other writer of good books ever dared depart so violently from truth as to picture a fool whose heart was filled with pretense and perfidy.

Women whose hearts are well nigh bursting with grief will often be the gayest of the gay; men whose souls are corroded with care—weighted down with sorrow too great for speech—are often those who set the table in a roar.

We need the night for rest, for dreams, for forgetfulness. In the night the flowers shed their perfume, lifting up their hearts in gladness, and all nature is renewed for the work of the coming day.

Time is the great healer, and hate left alone is short-lived and dies a natural death.

It is a herculean task to cope with the handicap of wealth. Wealth is an engine that can be used for good if you are an engineer; but to be tied to the fly-wheel of an engine is rather unfortunate.

We live in a pewee world which our senses create and declare that outside of what we see, smell, taste and hear there is nothing.

The chief characteristics of the man with initiative is a willingness to change the excellent for something better. He isn't married to a plan, a scheme, a system. He progresses by the process of elimination—he knows everything that will not work, and he knows too that which will, and is always looking for something better.

Certain sides of our nature are revealed only to certain persons. And I can understand, too, how there can be a Holy of Holies, closed and barred forever against all except the One. And in the absence of this One, I can also understand how the person can go through life, and father, mother, brothers, sisters, friends and companions never guess the latent excellence that lies concealed. We defend and protect this Holy of Holies from vulgar gaze.

To maintain a high position requires the skill of a harlequin. It is an abnormality, that any man should long tower above his fellows.

So mighty is Destiny! We work for one thing and fail to get it, but in our efforts we find something better.

Some one must believe in you. And through touching finger-tips with this Some One we may get in the circuit, and thus reach out to all.

WHAT THE BEST MAGAZINES CONTAIN.

There has been a tendency on the part of periodicals on house decoration to suggest materials which are far beyond the means of the average home. A new monthly, Interior Decoration, is to be issued next month from 19 Union Square, New York, which will bring to the average home most beautiful examples of every type of room decoration. The new magazine will make its readers acquainted with what is being done by eminent decorators of this country and Europe, with the correct lines along which room arrangement should be carried, and with the correct and available in carpets, wall hangings and tapestries. The profuse illustrations, with which each issue will be liberally supplied, will form admirable suggestions for the treatment of all parts of the home, and the new periodical will be well worth its subscription price of $1 a year. Messrs. Clifford & Lawton, the publishers, have already achieved authoritative standing as publishers.

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In the August Delineator Dr. Grace Peckham Murray has some remarks of value to mothers or others who have to solve the serious problem of feeding the child. "Infant or child feeding," says Dr. Murray, "is a question that has been studied with the utmost care by the medical profession. In former times the doctors had an aphorism, 'The breast-fed child lives; the artificially fed child dies.' It is, therefore, the duty of every mother who possibly can do so to nurse her child. The best food for children who are unable to have the breast is cow's milk. Cow's milk differs from human milk in that it contains less sugar—a little more than half as much—it has three times as much proteids (curds) and salts and less fat, and it is more acid. It has been found that by changing the milk of the cow it can be made very nearly in character that of human milk. In large cities this 'modified milk,' as it is called, is prepared ready for the child at laboratories, but this can be done at home also. The milk of a single cow used to be considered best for children, but it has been discovered that mixed milk is more uniform in its composition. A child should take about 15 to 20 minutes for nursing. He should not take the milk too fast, nor should he be permitted to go to sleep until he has satisfied his hunger. Gradual weaning is much better than the sudden removal of the child. A well known physician recommends that a child at the breast should have an occasional bottle when very young so as to become accustomed to it."

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In Impressions Quarterly for June, Regina E. Wilson has a scholarly paper on "Impulses to Thought," the second of a series on "Art and Life." Wilson C. Dibble has a short appreciation of "A California Singer"—the purple finch. Adeline Knapp and Mme. Nico Beck-Meyer furnish in "The Oldest Norse Sagas," some versions of two sagas, put into simple, vigorous English. Prof. A. T. Murray calls attention to the appearance in a separate and inexpensive volume of Prof. Jebb's prose translation of Sophocles. He praises highly this prose version and says truly that prose is the ideal rendering of any Greek poet. Dorothea Moore has a short appreciation of "Isadora." Maurice V. Samuels discusses "The Psychic Factor," and Prof. Alden writes of "The Elizabethan Drama in California." There is some good verse in this number, and, as usual, the typography is beyond praise.—San Francisco: Paul Elder & Co.

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Authors Whose Manuscripts Get Burnt Up Regularly.

OUR LONDON LITERARY LETTER.

Special Correspondence.

LONDON, July 5.—Although asbestos receptacles for manuscripts are not in common use there is a prominent English writer on Venetian subjects who feels strongly inclined to employ one. This is Horatio F. Brown, whose new book on Venice is about to be published in London. Probably no other author has had so many manuscripts destroyed by fire. The original draft of Brown's first and best known work, "Life on the Lagoons," perished in the blaze which destroyed the offices of its publisher—Kegan Paul—in 1883. The manuscript of his "Study in the Venetian Inquisition," was burned in a mail car in Switzerland two years later, and a similar fate overtook both that of his "Calendar of Venetian State Papers" at the fire at Spottiswoode's in 1892, and that of his "Studies in Archaeology." The latter was consumed in the burning of Cecil Rhode's house, Rondesbosch, Cape Town, in 1895. Many more important manuscripts than Brown's have perished by fire, witness that of the first volume of Carlyle's "French Revolution," but such a series of disasters as his must be a record. The author's new book is intended as a companion to "Life on the Lagoons," and will be called "In and Around Venice."

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I hear that Robert Hichens' next publication will be a volume of short stories, and that it may be a year or more before his new novel makes its appearance.

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Admirers of De Musset, both in France and in this country, have been surprised by an announcement that the poet's former housekeeper and nurse is about to publish her recollections of him. Adele Colin, who served De Musset in these humble capacities, is now ninety. Her reminiscences of her former employer should prove uncommonly interesting, for Mdlle. Colin entered on her duties at a troublesome period in the poet's history. His family had just been broken up, owing to the marriage of a sister, and for the first time in his life De Musset found himself obliged to earn his daily bread. To make matters worse, his health was wretched. He owed much to his new nurse, whose zeal and intelligence are praised by Paul de Musset in his biography of his brother. Mdlle. Colin remained with the poet until his death, seven years later, in 1857.

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While literary folk here are engaged in discussing the drastic changes made by George Meredith in the latest edition of "Richard Feverel," melancholy reports come from Box Hill as to the author's health. Mr. Meredith is said to take no more interest in his work, and the summer house where all his writing used to be done is almost never visited by him. "Even his garden," says a private letter from Surrey, "is becoming strange to him, and his love of the sun can scarcely tempt him farther than the window."

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Three uncommonly rare books are to be sold at auction in London during July, and each is expected to fetch a high price. Taken in chronological order the first of these is a fine and complete copy of Caxton's "Book of Caton," printed "in thabby of Westmeynstre" in 1483. Only eight perfect copies of this work are known to be in existence. They have seldom appeared in the open market, and none has been sold since Caxton began to be sought by wealthy collectors. One was in the famous Bernard sale in 1686, when it realized the imposing sum of 3 shillings or 75 cents. In 1823 a copy sold for $155. The Gardner copy sold for $405 in 1854. What the present work may fetch can be guessed from the amounts realized a few years ago for the Earl of Ashburnham's imperfect copy, and another example, also imperfect. The first brought $1,475, and the second $1,800.

The second of these rare books is a perfect copy of the first edition of Tyndale's "Pentateuch," the first edition of any part of the Old Testament in the English language, printed by Hans Luft, probably at Wittenberg, in 1530. So far as can be discovered, thus far only imperfect copies of this work have passed through the sales rooms. In 1818, such a copy was sold at Saunder's for $15, but in 1888 a made up copy which lacked title page and the prologue to Genesis was disposed of in London for $1,275. The third of these precious volumes is the Creede edition of "Richard III," recently discovered in this country. Printed in 1605, it consists of 46 leaves, and is additionally interesting from the fact that in five places a contemporary autograph of "Wm. Penn" was found, probably that of the celebrated admiral, father of the founder of Pennsylvania.

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It is some time since any work has appeared from the gifted pen of the author of "How to Be Happy, Though Married," the Rev. E. J. Hardy. Mr. Hardy is, of course, a chaplain in the British army and in that capacity has been stationed for some time in China. His new book will be called "John Chinaman At Home." I understand that Mr. Hardy has found the Celestial full of sympathy and humor.

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Apropos of the present examination season at Oxford a particularly good story of Oscar Wilde is being told. At his viva voce trial at Magdalen, Wilde was asked to translate a page or two of the Greek Testament, which the examiner suspected would puzzle him. Not so, however, for the future author opened the book and apparently without any difficulty began to translate the passage about St. Peter walking on the waters. "That will do nicely," said the examiner after a verse or two had been beautifully rendered. But Wilde raised a deprecating finger. "Hush," he said, "I wish to see if the gentleman is drowned."

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