

# LITERATURE

Josiah Gilbert Holland was born at Belchertown, Mass., July 24, 1819. His father was an expert mechanic and inventor, but lived and died a poor man. The boy received his education at his mother's knee and at various district schools, as the family moved about considerably. Finally the family settled at Northampton, and Josiah prepared for college and taught school, devoting his evenings to literature when he could spare them. In 1844 he

graduated from Berkshire Medical School and practiced for three years. In 1848 he reorganized the public schools of Northampton, Mass., and it was his little jest during the civil war that he had "whipped more rebels" than any man in America. In 1850 he returned to Massachusetts and began his brilliant literary career on the Springfield Republican, in which he became a partner. Much of his best work during those years was printed first in the Republican. Subsequently, he aided in founding Scribner's Magazine. He died in New York Oct. 12, 1881. Both his prose and poetry have had enormous sales, and "Timothy Titecomb," one of his pseudonyms, was for many years a member of many, thousand households.

## GRADATIM.

DR. J. G. HOLLAND.  
Heaven is not reached at a single bound;  
But we build the ladder by which we rise  
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies,  
And we mount to its summit round by round.

I count this thing to be grandly true,  
That a noble deed is a step toward God,  
Lifting the soul from the common sod  
To a purer air and a broader view.

We rise by the things that are under our feet;  
By what we have mastered of good and gain,  
By the pride of power and passion slain,  
And the vanquished will that we hourly meet.

We hope, we aspire, we resolve, we trust,  
When the morning calls us to life and light;  
But our hearts grow weary, and ere the night  
Our lives are trailing in sordid dust.

We hope, we resolve, we aspire, we pray,  
And we think that we mount the air on wings  
Beyond the reach of sensual things,  
While our feet still cling to the heavy clay.

Wings for the angels, but feet for men!  
We borrow the wings to find the way—  
We may hope, and resolve, and aspire, and pray,  
But our feet must rise, or we fall again.

Only in dreams is a ladder thrown  
From the weary earth to the sapphire walls;  
But the dreams depart and the vision falls,  
And the sleeper wakes on his pillow of stone.

Heaven is not reached at a single bound;  
But we build the ladder by which we rise  
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies,  
And we mount to its summit round by rounds.

## PRAYER.

Whether it be to Apollo,  
For the martyred Christian God;  
Or fall with the wine to the sod—  
"Pagan" or "Christian," or "Moslem,"  
But the prayer be sincere,  
That Power which is nameless and changeless,  
And loveth us all—will hear.

—Frances Bartlett, in the Boston Evening Transcript.

## NOTES.

The opinion of the publishers in September that the outlook for fall business was excellent is borne out by the statements of new editions into which recent books have gone. The Macmillan company, for instance, report that Mrs. Roger A. Pryor's "The Mother of Washington and Her Times," Mr. Jacob A. Riis' "Children of the Tenements," Mr. Mabel C. Osmond Wright's "Aunt Jimmy's Will," and Miss Overton's "The Golden Chain," went into their second editions at once on publication. Mr. Morley's "Life of Gladstone" has nearly exhausted its third edition, as has also Mr. Stewart Edward White's "The Magic Forest," Mr. Quiller-Couch's novel, "The Heart of Rome," Mr. Gilbert Parker and Claude G. Bryan, is midway in its third, and so is Miss Overton's "Anna Carmel," while "The Call of the Wild" and "The Metamorphosis" are nearly through their fifth editions, and "People of the Whirlpool" is far into its sixth.

A sale of 1,000,000 copies within four years is the record of Ralph Connor's four books, "Black Rock," the "Sky Pilot," "The Man from Glenogarry," and "The Call of the Wild." Usually the phenomenal success of books of the hour fall into oblivion within a year after their appearance, but Mr. Connor's publishers, the F. H. Revell company, announce that his books promise to have a steady sale.

Richard Harding Davis is usually associated in the reader's mind with the writing of fiction. He is, however, in fact, the author of eight books of travel and adventure which are now among the best-selling sets of books in Harper & Brothers' subscription department. Among the titles in this set are "About Paris," "The Rulers of the World," "A Year from a Reporter's Note-Book," "Our English Cousins," "The West from a Window," "Three Gringos in Venezuela and Central America."

Marie Tempest, the actress, is in New York, and has been in consultation with Otto Watanna, whose "A Japanese Nightingale," she will produce in London. She is with great magnificence, Miss Watanna is now on the top wave of popularity. Her "A Heart of Hyacinth" is said to be one of the two or three best-selling holiday books on the market.

The sale of novels is said to be notably diminishing in France, and a journalist has collected the views of the leading French publishers upon the subject. The publishers agree as to the fact but differ as to the reason to be assigned for it. The market suffers, they are assured.

1. Because there are too many novels, and competing authors cut one another's throats.  
2. Because translations of the works of Ibsen, Tolstoy and Kipling are, for the moment, more popular in France than the home-made article.  
3. Because the French newspapers do not as a rule review novels, but only print those things disguised advertisements called "reclames."

An interesting feature of the "slump" is the fact that the novels most affected by it are those usually, and not altogether unreasonably, considered "improper." A survey, however, conducted of the French newspapers suggests that in their case the first reason is the one that can be most plausibly invoked.

Mrs. Virgin's "Itenecca" continues to be one of the best-selling books in New York City. It is a story that readers cannot help talking about.

tooth brush and talking to herself. When asked what she was doing, she explained "This smoothest end of the tooth brush is a little girl who is lost, and the bristle end is the policeman who is taking her to the station house." She wrote her first novel when she was 16, but her first published story was "Only Dollie," which came out about three years ago. She had written a great many stories before the fact of her being a blind author became known. Though one people have suggested that "Silver Linings" is the story of my life, that is by no means true, she declares. "Of course, the experiences of the heroine during her childhood were suggested by some of my own, but the main facts of the plot are 'made up.'"

lavish of his praise of the author Joseph Conrad, and the theory is interesting. But pictures of Mr. Conrad have appeared in print and it is open to doubt that Mr. Alden would dare carry his deception as far as to foist a spurious portrait upon the public.

An English publisher a short time ago bought a small edition of George Madden Martin's story of a little girl's school days, "Jimmy Lou," from the American publishers, McClure, Phillips & Co. The sample volume had hardly reached the other side before the English house sent a cable order to double the edition. Since then McClure, Phillips & Co., about once a week have received cables from the English firm "Please increase our order to..." "Jimmy Lou" has been out a year and is still selling in America, equally with any of this season's new books.

"Have you read Emerson Hough's new book, 'The Way to the West'?" If not, you should. It will show you why all jokes born west of the Mississippi river are labeled either as being from Texas or Missouri; why all southern jokes are from Tennessee; and why all Yankee humor is branded as coming from Maine. It will tell you also that Massachusetts threatened to secede from the Union long before the slave question came up, and for fear that the west would secede from the Union, would trade with the south that had settled it. In a word—the book will tell you a lot about your own "out West" and not know, and will certify for you a lot of scattering facts that you already know but fail to appreciate.

Is it true that affecting books are the most popular? A strong case could be made out for the affirmative, for almost every grown person retains a lingering love for any book which makes him or her—particularly her—"teary" round the lashes, and certainly children love best the books which they cry over. This belief is strikingly borne out by the welcome given to two recent books, Miss Beulah Marie Dix's novel, "Blount of Brookborough," and Mrs. Mabel Osmond Wright's new story for girls, "Aunt Jimmy's Will." The final scene between Blount and Arundel is said to be one of the most pathetic passages in recent fiction while in "Aunt Jimmy's Will" the unflinching bravery of the little heroine through all sorts of mishaps and tragedies, great and small, would melt the stoniest heart.

Musterlinck's "Monna Vanna" (Harper) now has a successor in the class of plays which the London career has not permitted his carefully protected townspeople to go to see. News comes that Miss Duse, now acting at the Olympic theater, will probably not be allowed to appear there in "Monna Vanna" as "La Citta Morta," as the license has "advised against it."

Herbert Spencer, the famous author, died on Tuesday morning, Dec. 8, at his home in Brighton, Eng., at the age of 83 years. His death ends the career of one of the world's greatest thinkers, his name being considered a foremost authority in the realm of natural and philosophical science.

## BOOKS.

"The Golden Windows" is the title of a book of fables for old and young, by Mrs. Laura E. Richards, author of "Capt. January," etc., with beautiful illustrations and decorations by Arthur E. Beecher and Julia Ward Richards, while the binding is an extremely dainty one in green and gold. This charming book, by Laura E. Richards,

## WHAT THE BEST MAGAZINES CONTAIN.

The Christmas number of the Juvenile Instructor reflects great credit on the publishers of that excellent magazine. The cover is a work of art, printed in colors and bearing in the center a picture of the boy Jesus in the midst of the wise men in the Temple. Twenty-four additional pages have been added to this number. Supt. J. M. Tanner contributes the first article, giving an interesting account of his recent tour through Canada. "Allan the Workhouse Boy," is a continued story that will be read with interest by old and young. In the Theological department "The Maccabees" form the subject of an interesting paper, profusely illustrated article "From the Ark to the Monitor," is concluded in this number. Following this is a portrait with a short biography of the great extracts from the poetical writings of Mrs. Emily H. Woodmansee. Mrs. Lou Dalton sends a poetical Christmas greeting to the children of Zion, and Sarah E. Pearson tells us of an experience of "A Frontier Santa Claus" in Mexico. "Thoughts on Christmas" is the title of an inspiring article from the pen of the editor, President Joseph F. Smith, and "Christmas Tales" are told in poetry by Laura Moech Jenkins. Lydia D. Alder's paper "Cathedral Cathedral," contains an interesting history of the old English church. The articles in the Religion Class department will be read with interest by those who are engaged in that important work. The following extracts from the poetical writings of Mrs. Emily H. Woodmansee, Mrs. Lou Dalton sends a poetical Christmas greeting to the children of Zion, and Sarah E. Pearson tells us of an experience of "A Frontier Santa Claus" in Mexico. "Thoughts on Christmas" is the title of an inspiring article from the pen of the editor, President Joseph F. Smith, and "Christmas Tales" are told in poetry by Laura Moech Jenkins. Lydia D. Alder's paper "Cathedral Cathedral," contains an interesting history of the old English church. The articles in the Religion Class department will be read with interest by those who are engaged in that important work.

The Improvement Era's prospectus for its newly begun volume is an interesting one, and the list of writers who will furnish material for the new year promises an entertaining series of articles. The "Editor's Table," so valuable to its readers in the past, will continue to be one of the leading features of the Era, in which President Joseph F. Smith will discuss ethical, religious, and current topics. A large number of letters which have been received by the editors speak of the value of "The Current Story of the World," which has appeared for the past two years in the magazine, written by Dr. J. M. Tanner, and this popular department will be continued and improved in volume VII. The department, "Questions and Answers," will contain important ques-

will be a source of delight to those who love the best literature, and parents will find in its pages much that will be helpful in shaping their children's lives. The stories are so simple and graceful that they suggest Tolstoy at his best, and the moral attached to each fascinating title is as excellent. As an example may be mentioned the story of the untidy little boy who was visited by the "Fairy Angel," and told to go into the garden and find his brother. He found various animals and sleek little animals in the garden, who failed to accept him as a brother, because they were clean and, finally, a grunting pig arrived to claim kinship. Of course the boy did not wish to share the pig's home, and became clean and neat at once. Mrs. Richards' charm of style embellishes this book, which is beautifully illustrated—Little, Brown & Co., publishers.

The locality described by Mary Austin in her new book, "The Land and the Little Rain," centers about Independence, Cal., which has a situation hardly equaled for the study of mountain and desert life. It is about 100 miles by pack and trail from the famous Death Valley, and half as far in the opposite direction from the ridge of the Sierra Nevada. It is a beautiful, comfortable little town where nobody bothers unless he has to, where most of the inhabitants play "cards," and where Mrs. Austin is the only person besides the minister who can "pray out loud." When her book was put in shape at the General Store, it was gingerly inspected by the minister, who refused to believe that the illustrations had not been drawn from actual photographs. "They did not know whether to be offended or liberated, taken on or to be pleased with the distinction; but as books went, the general verdict pronounced it a 'Jim Dandy' and a 'beaut!'"

"Chateaubriand's Les Aventures du Dernier Abencerage, edited by James D. Bruner, Ph. D., associate professor in the University of North Carolina, has just published by the American Book company. This edition of the well-known work of one of the foremost French romancers is a preparation for rapid reading in the first year of the course. The style is simple and easy, yet classical, and the subject-matter is so interesting as to hold the student's attention. The notes, which brief and to the point, explain all proper names, geographical, historical, and legendary allusions, and give the equivalents in our own language. The vocabulary is both complete and accurate.

"The Curious Book of Birds" is by Abbie Farwell Brown, author of "In the Days of Giants," "The Book of Saints and Friendly Beasts," etc. With eight full-page illustrations by E. Boyd Smith. This is an excellent book about birds that is meant to amuse children. It is wholly unscientific, fantastic, and charming. The birds that it deals with are described in a vein of fancy like Kipling's creatures of the Jungle Book. They are more like fairy birds than those of the familiar bird-book variety; in fact, such birds as children care to care up themselves—birds that think and talk like people. The basis of the book is to be found in old stories and legends, from ancient sources, mostly European, but some of Oriental and African origin, and others from the American Indian folk-lore. The author has taken these whimsical notions and quaint conceits and has made them more real to them to our every-day birds as to endue them with a romantic and imaginative atmosphere. Children are sure to find amusement in the book.

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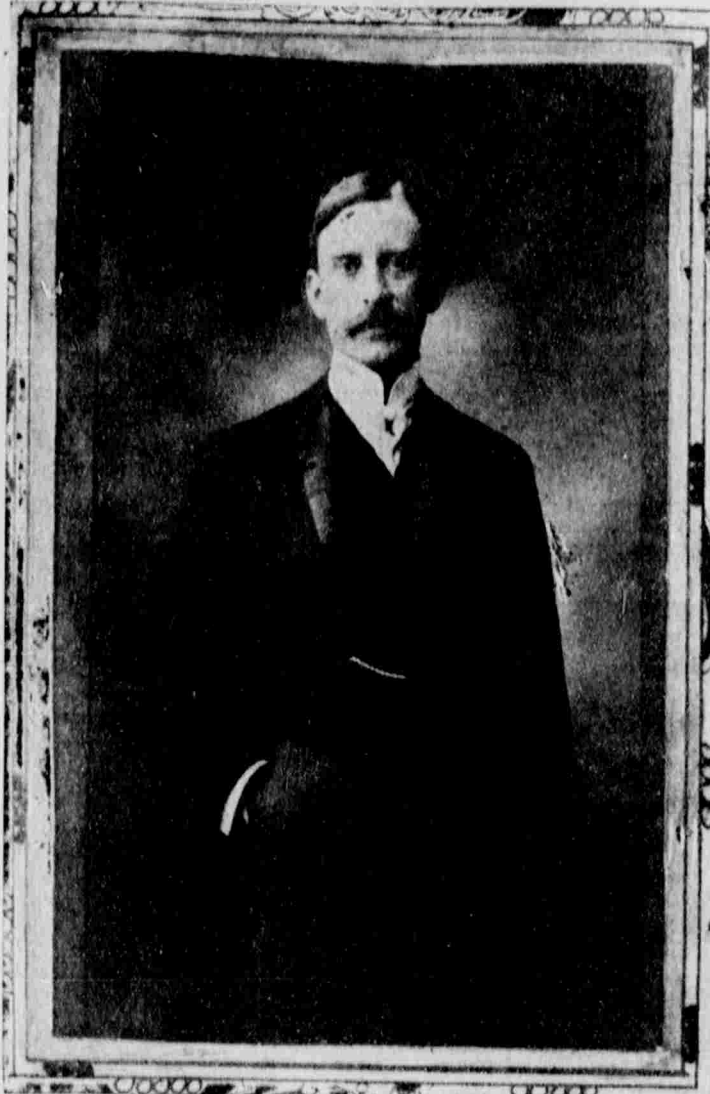
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**KENNETH CHAMBERLAINE KERR.**  
Winner of the Christmas "News" \$25 Prize Article, "Salt Lake in 1910."

a hunting trip into the swamps of Florida, with a bad man and acknowledged murderer. In 1894, he wanted a guide to take him hunting on the west coast of Florida. He found one, and after being out with him for some days awoke to the fact that he was alone in the wilds with the prize criminal of the country. Most men would probably have made tracks immediately for home, but Mr. Rowland continued his hunting for several months and discovered that Mr. Murderer-Thief-and-Burglar was quite an agreeable companion when you could get it out of your mind that he might kill you in his sleep.

Nina Rhodes, the author of the charming story of a blind girl's fortunes and misfortunes, "Silver Linings," McClure, Phillips & Co., lost her sight when only a small lad. She has always been a story teller, in fact began making up stories almost as soon as she could talk. When she was only 3 or 4 years old, a member of the family came into the room and found her sitting on the floor playing with an old

Mrs. Margaret Deland, author of "Old Chester Tales and Dr. Lavender's People," has frequently been asked the real identity of the village of Old Chester, which is becoming as familiar as Cranford in the annals of fiction. Old Chester itself, the author says, is founded on the real town of Manchester, Pennsylvania; and the "Mercer," alluded to in the Tales, is Pittsburgh. Mrs. Deland is a native of Allegheny, of which Old Manchester is a suburb.

It was only a few months back that Mr. Andrew Lang and Mr. W. L. Alden were mutually accusing each other in the columns of literary journals of being not individual but syndicates. Now a whiff of the combat comes from Chicago. A gentleman of literary tastes and acquisitions in that distinguished city comes out, in a review of "Faith," with the theory that Mr. Alden is the author of all those books which have been appearing recently under the name of Joseph Conrad. It may be possible the gentleman was misled by the fact that the name of Mr. Alden, over his own name, is so

## HIGH STANDARD OF UTAH ART.

CONSIDER the outlook for art in Utah as most promising indeed. Our state of course cannot rank in these matters with some of the eastern ones, and, as New York and Pennsylvania, but I do not consider that we are behind any others, certainly not of the western states; and of the most of these we are far ahead. The expressions above are those of President George R. Ottinger of the Art Institute, and were uttered with utmost and enthusiastic conviction. Mr. Ottinger is the oldest of the artists resident in Utah, and it was through his efforts that the first school for art was established in the territory.

This was organized in 1883 and was called the Deseret Academy of Art, with George R. Ottinger, Dan Wegge-land, William Silver, C. R. Savage, William Morris, John Tullidge, William Folsom and Arthur Mitchell as directors. Messrs. Ottinger and Wegge-land were to teach landscape and figure painting; C. R. Savage, photography; John Tullidge and William Morris, decorative art; William Folsom, architecture, and Silver and Mitchell, mechanical drawing.

The directors rented a small undisturbed hall 40x30 feet that stood next door to where the White House now

stands on Main street, known as Romney hall, put a floor down, and held classes three times a week—the nights being divided between the various departments. For four or five months the academy flourished. Mr. Ottinger has in his possession still a small banner carried in the Fourth of July parade of '83, when the academy directors and members marched proudly in line, representing the first institution of art established in the intermountain region. Before seven months had passed, its light began to wane. Mr. Ottinger was busy painting scenery for the Salt Lake Theater, the architects and other preceptors were engaged in the practical work of building up the growing town, and finally the academy became extinct for want of preceptors, and its affairs wound up. It was 12 years later when the next art organization was attempted, under the name of the Utah Sketching club, with the late well known George A. Mearns as president. The Sketching club included in its membership, all who were interested in art, as well as the artists, and it was this feature, Mr. Ottinger believes, which caused the early disintegration of the club.

Then came the Utah Society of Artists in 1899, an institution which, though now in the background, still claims an

existence. Two or three art exhibitions were given by the society, but its practical work as a body ceased with the establishment of the Utah Art Institute in 1899, by legislative enactment, a bill for the purpose of providing a state institution of art being framed by Mrs. Alice M. Horne and carried by the Legislature of which she was a member. Among the provisions of the bill was an appropriation of \$300 each year for a state prize for the best picture sent in competition at the annual exhibitions of the Institute, the pictures awarded the prize to be held as the property of the state. These are to be known as the Alice art collection in honor of the founder of the Institute, and there is already the nucleus of a fine state gallery which will be added to each year. Of the many artists who contribute to the annual exhibitions nearly all at present are earnestly at work, their studios showing an outlook for future excellent results. The Institute prizes furnish an added incentive to effort, and the state will yet have an art collection which it may reasonably hold in pride. The present Institute officers are: George M. Ottinger, president; Mrs. E. W. Sloan, secretary; Alice M. Horne, treasurer; S. T. Whitaker, Alan L. Lovey, H. L. A. Culmer, L. A. Ramser, governing board.



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