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PROF. J. L. GERIG, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

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Collections of French Literature in American Libraries

Prof. J. L. Gerig, Columbia University

The library of Columbia University which, it must be frankly admitted, is neither so extensive nor important as some of the libraries of other great American universities, has nevertheless scattered about in its different collections works of rare value and historic interest. Many of these volumes were purchased during the eighties and nineties by the then librarian, Mr. Baker, a real bibliophile — a characteristic not always common to librarians— and a scholar of vision. During that interesting epoch when Professor Wm. I. Knapp of Yale University was building up his splendid collection of rare Spanish books which now form the nucleus of the Library of the Hispanic Society, Mr. Baker was also purchasing books that struck his fancy or that he considered important from the bibliographical or historical point of view. So quietly and unostentatiously did he carry on his work that it often happened that many of his colleagues were not aware of the value or extent of his purchases. This same method was pursued by at least one of his successors, which explains the fact that from time to time so-called discoveries are made in the Library of Columbia University.

During the past academic year, for example, Mr. Howson, the assistant librarian, found on the shelves of the section of Greek and Latin a volume of Dionysius of Halicarnassus which was purchased at least as early as 1884. At the foot of the title-page was the name Racine written in a beautiful round hand. Interspersed in the text and in the margin were notes in the same handwriting. After careful examination and comparison with other specimens, it was shown that the handwriting was that of Jean Racine, the great dramatic poet of the seventeenth century. One of our graduate students, Mr. H. Cargill Sprietsma, now Cutting Fellow in France, made the necessary investigations and published them in the Renaissance of last August in an article entitled "Du Racine inédit à Columbia University."

Another graduate student, Miss Harriet D MacPherson, who was preparing a Master's essay on "Editions de Beaumarchais in the Libraries of New York", found in the Columbia Library at about the same time a collection of rare pamphlets, bound in one volume, relating to the Goëzman affair. The handwriting of the index and some notes is, without doubt, of the eighteenth century; and there is a remote possibility that it might be by Beaumarchais himself.

II.

These interesting discoveries should not, however, be considered as unusual or even extraordinary, for what has been said of the Library of Columbia University might apply no doubt to other libraries. We should not be oblivious of the fact that our American libraries are being built up rather rapidly. One Paris bookseller, for example, has stated that in the first nine months of the year 1921 he alone shipped more than 570 boxes of books to the United States. Many of us are aware, perhaps, of the recent important acquisitions of the Library of the University of Michigan—especially the collection of inedited letters of Beaumarchais. Also a few years ago, the extensive collection of French drama of the Lintilhac Library was purchased, I believe, by the Leland Stanford Junior University, while the Storel collection of books, pamphlets, etc. on French literature of the sixteenth century is now in Dartmouth College. Many other interesting collections might also be cited, such as, for example, the collection of pamphlets relating to the Revolution and the Republic of 1848, which has reposed for many years in Virginia State Library.
In view of these well known examples, may it not seem advisable for the members of the Romance section of the Modern Language Association of America to organize at some time in the near future a survey of our libraries, for the purpose of ascertaining and listing all such important collections as well as others that may have escaped our attention? A few years ago, while preparing an article on "Celtic Studies in the United States", I attempted to make a limited survey of this character for the use of students. It was surprising and, indeed, most gratifying to learn of the wealth of certain libraries, especially the Mercantile Library of Philadelphia, in things Celtic.

On the other hand, Miss MacPherson found in the libraries of New York—among which there are several containing works of interest to the student of Romance languages—several editions of Beaumarchais not listed in standard bibliographies of that author.

Again it happens not infrequently in the United States that individual works—and sometimes collections—disappear from the shelves of our libraries. In the survey of Celtic material referred to above, there was noted in a catalogue of an eastern library, published about the middle of the nineteenth century, a collection of books on Wales and Welsh literature left as a legacy thereto by a certain Celtic scholar. Not only have all traces of that collection disappeared, but it is not even certain that the works forming the collection ever reached the library in question.

Such a survey—if, of course, it should ever be undertaken—might also aid materially in bringing about a greater degree of specialization along certain lines by the authorities of our libraries. A few years ago the Department of Romance Languages of Princeton University brought up that important subject for discussion. As I did not happen to attend that annual meeting of the Association I am unable to state what action was taken. In that regard, if I may be excused for mentioning a specific example, while we are seeking here at Columbia to provide a general working library for both graduate and undergraduate students—as our limited funds and space do not permit of specialization in all the extensive subjects of our field—we have at the same time been attempting during the past ten or more years to give special emphasis to the growth of regionalism in the Latin countries. This form of specialization does not preclude the possibility of development in certain more limited fields. The Reverend Acton Griscom, for example, has placed on the shelves of our library his valuable collection of documents and books pertaining to Jeanne d'Arc and her epoch; and he is continually adding thereto. Furthermore, by the fortunate location of Columbia University within the confines of this large city, we are able to cooperate with local libraries. Thus it is possible for the New York Public Library to purchase certain books which we could not afford—not at times deem wise—to add to our collection. As for Spanish, it would not be advantageous to do otherwise than supplement the very important collection now housed in the headquarters of the Hispanic Society of America.

But in the case of regionalism, when, some eight or ten years ago it was anticipated that this subject might become important with the course of events, we found that our local libraries—excepting that of the Hispanic Society—were not only inadequately provided with works of importance, but that for certain reasons of their own, were unable to encourage development of this subject. We have, therefore, made only a fair beginning by adding to this library various regionalistic histories, biographies, bibliographies, inventories of archives, etc., of France and other Latin countries. When Édouard Herriot, now prime minister of France, visited Harvard and Columbia in September 1923, he seemed to be impressed by the utility of such collections. A former professor in the Lycée Ampère of Lyons, M. Herriot has always been a staunch advocate of regionalism.

A third point of importance is the systematic development of smaller libraries which such a survey might encourage. As everyone knows, work in our subjects has suffered heretofore through inadequate library facilities. Where funds are necessarily very limited—as in small colleges—it is important that the librarian should know what books are essential and how the purchase of them may be most economically made. Many of us have often received requests for information as to the disposal of a small library budget in the most efficient and satisfactory manner. Hence the suggestion might be made that such a committee of survey—if one should ever be formed—attempt to create certain standard lists of what is essential for a small library. Recently, for example, a librarian informed me that he had been granted permission to subscribe to four reviews in the Romance
field, providing they be apportioned satisfactorily among the three leading Romance languages—French, Italian and Spanish. In view of the special conditions obtaining in the institution where he happens to be, I recommended—not having any authoritative standard to guide me—the Revue des Deux Mondes and the Revue d'Histoire littéraire de la France, the Giornata Storico and the Revista de archivos.

On the other hand, when libraries are allowed to grow spasmodically, without receiving due attention, curious conditions often result. A few years ago attention was called to the fact that a certain library possessed several editions of a second-rate popular German novelist, and practically nothing else in the Germanic field. At Columbia we are continually finding inexplicable gaps which we are earnestly seeking to fill. And this holds true, no doubt, for many libraries.

And finally, libraries should be supplied with information as to where and how to purchase foreign books to the best advantage. While most librarians are well posted in that regard, some seem to be totally unaware of the best methods of procedure. Provost W. H. Carpenter, under whose general supervision the Columbia Library is conducted, encourages the members of the staff to make trips abroad for the purpose of acquiring this necessary information. It is to be hoped that this may become more general, and that Librarians may in this way and others become more familiar with the book market.

We have fortunately, at last, an admirable work by Professor Morize of Harvard for the guidance of students in graduate study. May we not foresee the publication of a guide for librarians for use in purchasing the numerous essential volumes mentioned therein?

III.

THE COLLECTION OF LETTERS OF PIERRE BAYLE IN COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Turning now from our brief survey of the general subject, we shall not attempt to make any technical description of the letters of Pierre Bayle, for that would be unnecessarily tedious. A few general facts may, however, be of interest.

During the spring of the year 1906, Professor Vladimir G. Simkhovitch, of the Department of History, happened to notice in a London catalog the offer for sale of a collection of about 150 manuscript letters of Pierre Bayle at a price of £22. As the library budgets of both the Departments of History and Romance Languages had already been exhausted, Professor Simkhovitch appealed to Professor Wendell T. Bush, of the Department of Philosophy, who, with his usual generosity, supplied the sum necessary for the purchase of the documents.

Although the dealers were of the opinion that the letters had all been edited, investigations were made and when it was found that apparently the first fifty were published in the edition of Nouvelles Lettres (La Haye, 1739, 2 vols.), the matter was allowed to drop. The letters were then duly catalogued among Bayle's works, and seem to have remained undisturbed until the autumn of this year. At the suggestion of President Butler, who has always taken an active interest in the Romance field, a survey of our library material was instituted. When Pro-
fessor van Roosbroeck began to compare these manuscript letters with the collections in print; it was soon found that many were totally inedited and most of the remainder only partly edited. Furthermore, instead of 150 letters as announced by the dealers, investigation revealed that the collection really contained 160 letters. To this number we have since added an inedited letter to Ménage and some brief notes jotted down in haste by the great encyclopaedist.

The importance of these letters is twofold. In the first place they cover the entire intellectual life of Bayle, beginning in the autumn of 1670 when he left France to take up his studies in Geneva and extending to 1706, the year of his death. Furthermore, the editors of the eighteenth century editions of his letters were very careful to suppress all passages—and they are numerous—that revealed Bayle’s strong inclination toward Protestantism or, at times, apparent infidelity. Again, entire paragraphs are remodelled wherein the cold pomposity of the eighteenth century oratorical style is substituted for Bayle’s intimate patois phraseology, so rich in local color. Likewise, all details of family life—so important to us for an understanding of his character—are either transformed into general statements or omitted altogether.

In the second place, the importance of these letters consists in the fact that they are the precursors of Bayle’s Nouvelles de la République des Lettres. Some have the dimensions of a small pamphlet, and are not only a testimonial of his inherent desire for communication, but in addition, seem to serve him as a record of the growth of his intellectual life. As has already been noted in regard to Bayle’s abundant footnotes to his Dictionary, so we find in his letters a miscellany of variegated notes on a wide range of subjects—politics, philosophy, literature, medicine, politics, etc. That Bayle was fully aware of this tendency of his omnivorous and restless mind, is obvious from the fact that already in 1673 he wrote to Vincent Minutoli from Coppet:

"Je continue à solliciter votre curiosité en faveur de la mienne; car je vois bien que mon instabilité des nouvelles est une de ces maladies contre lesquelles tous les remèdes blanchissent. C’est une hydropisie toute pure: plus on lui fournit et plus elle demande... J’en ai donc pour toute ma vie..."

Finally, it should not be overlooked that the letters from his correspondents are generally sources of information for Bayle. From them he takes sometimes extracts verbatim to be inserted in his periodical, or, on other occasions, transmits the Nouvelles which he received to another correspondent. In a sense, one can say that Bayle’s correspondence reveals his collaborators. He was never tired of putting questions to them, and asks with the most painstaking care for exact information on all matters that interested him. Daniel Larroque sends him news from England and puts him in relation with the English savants, especially with Dr. Thomas Smith of the Royal Society, to whom there are, accordingly, many references both in the correspondence and in the Nouvelles de la République des Lettres. Again, the French refugees send back to France in their letters the ideas of Locke and Newton. The physician Denis Papin communicates to Bayle translations of his papers for the Philosophical Transactions. The archeologist Jacques Spon sends him news from Lyons; and the theologian Pierre Allix makes him acquainted with German thinkers, among others J. C. Wagensel. And lastly, he was in correspondence with Malebranche and Du Rondel, whose ideas made a powerful appeal to him.

It is obvious from the very beginning of this correspondence that the Bayle family was under suspicion, for both he and his brother had to take the greatest precautions in the manner of dispatching their letters. Fourteen years later—toward the end of the year 1684—difficulties are raised against the Nouvelles; and by the beginning of 1685, the sale of the periodical is forbidden. On June 11, 1685, his brother is imprisoned without charge; and it is generally believed that this action was a token of revenge upon Bayle himself. On November 12 Jacob dies in prison, ten days before the King signed the order for his release. It was even rumored that the government of Louis XIV intended to abduct Bayle from Holland. And his life closed, as it had begun, under the cloud of innuendo, suspicion and even persecution.

IV.

P The first edition of letters by Pierre Bayle was issued in 1714, in three volumes, by Prosper Marchand, under the title “Lettres choisies de Bayle”. This edition was received with protest by the friends of Bayle who accused Marchand of having altered the text and of having added some absurd notes. As a consequence,
a pamphlet appeared—"Remarques critiques sur l'édition des Lettres de M. Bayle, faite à Rotterdam en 1714. Où l'on donne un échantillon des faussetés, des bévues et des impertinences qui se trouvent dans les Notes du Sieur Marchand". (A copy is in the Columbia Library). What was the origin of those letters? Another pamphlet affords an answer: "Lettre de M. Des Maisseaux à M. Coste sur l'Édition des Lettres de M. Bayle, faite à Rotterdam..." Des Maisseaux declares therein that he regrets that these letters, which had been entrusted to him by the friends of Bayle, were not correctly edited and disclaims all responsibility for the notes of the 1714 edition. He explains furthermore that he had sent the letters to Holland, to the printers Fritsch and Bohm, and that the latter had promised to send him the proofs. When he received the first sheets he was astonished to note that entire letters had been omitted, that important changes had been made in others, and that incorrect notes had been added... Consequently, he wrote to the publishers in regard to the errors in the notes and the abridgement of the letters. From that time on he failed to receive any further proofs and did not see the volumes before they were issued in final form. We learn in addition from Des Maisseaux that Prosper Marchand had been engaged by the publishers only to edit the volumes, but had taken over the sole direction of the publication. This disfigured edition is, according to Des Maisseaux, fragmentary and unreliable.

But this is not the end of the polemic that raged about the Marchand edition, for the latter was attacked in a third pamphlet, "Apostille ou Dialogue d'un Tour nouveau," in which once more he is taken to task for the changes made in Bayle's text, as well as for the unreliability of his commentary. This first (or Marchand) edition in three volumes contained in all 253 letters.

Fifteen years later (1729) Des Maisseaux reissued the same letters in a more correct form, with the addition of 42 unpublished ones, bringing thus the number of letters known up to 295. His edition is entitled "Lettres de Bayle, publiées sur les originaux avec des remarques par Des Maisseaux", Amsterdam, 1729, 3 vols.

At that time Des Maisseaux was issuing the "Œuvres diverses" of Bayle, which appeared from 1727 to 1731, in 4 vols., folio. He reprinted in these volumes the letters already published by him and added thereto 56 inedited ones, which increased the total published to 351. So, as far as the correspondence is concerned, the "Œuvres Diverses" constitute the standard edition.

Another collection of Bayle's letters appeared in 1739 in two volumes under the title "Nouvelles Lettres de M. P. Bayle", containing 150 letters in all. Though the editor is unknown, he was probably some member of the family, for the letters are all addressed to Bayle's father, mother or two brothers. As all of the members of Bayle's family died before he did, these letters probably passed into the hands of his cousins, de Bruguières and de Naudis, and were later entrusted to an editor by their descendants.

This collection was also prepared with much negligence. The manuscript in the library of Columbia University reveals that a great number of sentences and passages were suppressed at times without discrimination, though in general because of the bold opinions therein expressed. The total number of letters by Bayle published in the eighteenth century is, then, 501. However, this represents but a very small part of his enormous output, for his correspondence certainly equaled that of Voltaire, and the number of known letters of the latter exceeds 12,000. And just as Voltaire's letters reflect his times, so Bayle's are a mirror of the intellectual life of his period, while his irrepressible curiosity and marvelous memory transform them into critical treatises.

From the eighteenth century on to the present day, a few letters—about 75 in all—have appeared here and there in fifteen different works or publications. For example, Emile Gigas published 24 inedited letters of Bayle in his "Lettres inédites de divers savants" (tome 1, 1890); while E. P. Denis, in his article on "Lettres inédites de P. Bayle" in the Revue d'Histoire Littéraire (1912-13) added 29 more. Without going further into detail, it is obvious that the known correspondence of Bayle comprises from about 575 to 600 letters. This small number is indeed astonishing, when we recall that Des Maisseaux, who was personally acquainted with many of Bayle's friends, devoted the major portion of his life to the collection of the latter's correspondence.

Besides the collection of letters in the Library of Columbia University, the following four MSS collections are known to exist:
1. Library of the University of Leyden.
2. Bibliotheque Royale de La Haye.
3. Bibliotheque Nationale (some of which are known to be copies).

In conclusion it may be said that many important facts will be elucidated by the publication of this correspondence—Bayle’s early struggles against poverty (letter to his brother, September 3, 1674); his youthful efforts to develop a literary style (letter to Minutoli, 1674) which Mr. Haxo has so ably discussed recently in the Publications of the Modern Language Association; his accurate appreciation of his own shortcomings (letter of May 1688 to his cousin de Naudis); and his keen judgment of the Méagiana (letters to the Parisian lawyer Pinson of the Riolles, June 25, 1693 and May 27, 1694).

As stated above, more than thirty of the letters in the Columbia manuscript appear to be entirely inedited. The President of Columbia University has requested Professor van Rosbroeck and myself to prepare an accurate critical edition of the whole collection. This enormous undertaking, it is hoped, will shed more light on the life and work of one of the greatest figures the intellectual world has ever known.

Miss Schermerhorn’s “Benjamin Constant, 1767-1830”, Professor Hazen says, is the first comprehensive study of the great French Liberal, and is a notable work, ample in its learning, rich in its literary texture, keen and delicate and sure in its psychology, mature and mellow in its philosophy. (Heinemann. 1924. 25/-)

“The Folk-music of the Western Hemisphere” is the subject of a list of references in the New York Public Library, compiled by Julius Mattfield of its Music Division, and recently published by it. It includes material not only on Indian and Negro music, but also on Creole, Cowboy, Canadian, and Eskimo music.

In an introduction to “The Best Stories of Sarah Orne Jewett” recently published by Houghton, Mifflin, Miss Cather says, “If I were asked to name three American books which have the possibility of a long, long life, I would say at once, ‘The Scarlet Letter’, ‘Huckleberry Finn’, and ‘The Country of the Pointed Firs’. I can think of no others that confront time and change so serenely.”

The most popular British authors, as shown by the recent Crosby Hall Endowment Fund poll are the following, in the order of the number of votes polled: Rudyard Kipling, Thomas Hardy, Hall Caine, Conan Doyle, H. G. Wells, Rider Haggard, Arnold Bennett, Ethel M. Dell, Joseph Conrad, W. G. Locke, G. K. Chesterton and Ian Hay.

“Woodrow Wilson” by William Allen White (Houghton) is described by Thomas L. Masson as the best biography of Woodrow Wilson which he has seen, but he leaves one uncertain as to whether he has seen them all.

The Hawthornden prize for the best imaginative work by a writer under forty years of age has been awarded to R. H. Mottram for his novel, “The Spanish Farm”.

The gold medal of the National Institute of Arts and Letters has been awarded to Edith Wharton. She is the first woman to receive this award.

In his latest novel, entitled “Jonah” (McBride) Robert Nathan has attempted a portrait of the prophet, Jonah, the forlorn rebel of the Bible, who in Mr. Nathan’s hands, assumes somewhat the character of a symbol not only of his age but of our own. It is heralded as his finest and most substantial work.

“Few American autobiographies have the urbanity, the breadth of viewpoint, the nice sense of what gossip to tell and what to omit, that one finds in Maurice Francis Egan’s Recollections of a Happy Life” (Doran),—John Farrer says. It is from first to last stimulating, graceful, genuinely amusing. “Le Théatre de Massinger” by Maurice Chelli (Société d’Edition des Belles Lettres) is said to rank with such contributions to the literary history of the English stage as M. Feuillerat’s study of John Lilly and M. Castelain’s study of Ben Jonson.

Harvard University Library Notes for December is devoted to a brief description of the French books in the University Library. These include the Bòcher collection of editions of Montaigne and Molière, probably unequaled elsewhere in the United States together with a large number of dramatic pieces, poetical works, and newspapers.
Jean Charlemagne Bracq was born in Cambrai, France in 1853, and was educated first at Reims, later at Burlington, Vermont, graduated with honours in philosophy at McGill University, and finally spent two years at the Newton Theological Institution. He had come to the United States with an enthusiasm for American institutions and American life, and a great historic interest which have lasted him through the years. In his youth he had read with interest Sir Walter Scott, and Fenimore Cooper; at the Newton Theological Institution he became acquainted with the great speculative thinkers, Kant, Hegel, John Stuart Mill, and Spencer; and he came into contact also with such influences as George Eliot, Emerson, Mrs. Ward, and John Morley. This close contact with British thinkers and writers, and his travels in their country, gave him a sympathy with their national life, and convinced him that France and England must stand side by side to uphold the great interests of civilization.

His philosophical studies had prepared him for his work in the French capital under Paul Janet, Auguste Sabatier, Renan, Taine, and eminent professors of literature, and this work was a stepping-stone to his subsequent indebtedness to Renouvier, Fouillée, Boutroux and Bergson. He derived also much from purely literary men such as Anatole France, and he was profoundly affected by Brunetières theories of the evolution of literature. While in Paris he became greatly interested in the work of the Rev. Dr. Robert McAll, and in 1885 became representative of the American McAll Association which was attempting to enlist sympathisers for the work, and interpret the French religious situation in America.

In 1891 he became professor of French and French Literature in Vassar College. For him literature is the most complete expression of a people's life, whose high-water marks in France are to be found not in the more popular works of playwrights and novelists, but in the writings of the philosophers, of the critics, and of some few dramatists and writers of fiction. With this theme in view Professor Bracq has been of great help to librarians in suggesting good French books, and reliable books upon France, and has contributed to many of the most important American reviews. He has delivered hundreds of addresses before American churches, and has lectured before such institutions as the Institute of Arts and Sciences of Brooklyn, and the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences of Paris.

For years he studied the Newfoundland question, and defended French rights in Ottawa and in Newfoundland itself. When he read before the Academy of Moral and Political
Sciences of Paris" his La Question de Terre Neuve d'après des sources anglaises, M. Declasse used that paper to settle with Lord Landsdowne the question of French rights.

In 1890 he published his "France under the Republic," which aimed at showing that, contrary to the assertions of the president of a certain important American University in an address delivered at Bryn Mawr, the life of France was healthy and progressive, her colonies flourishing, her educational system epoch-making, her art and literature, her scientific and social development, and her religious outlook things to be proud of.

All through his life Professor Bracq has watched with interest the accidents of German-French relations. During the war he published "The Provocation of France, or Fifty Years of German Aggression." As a pacifist he studied with signal independence of judgment the policies of Bismark and his successors towards France, and in this book he set forth his theories on the provoking policy of the Kaiser with singular objectivity. He was, strange to say, the last professor in Vassar to stand for German as a college requirement, while he always acknowledged the enormous debt which the world owes to Germany for her culture and her contributions to the sciences.

He was a delegate to the International Peace Congress in Rouen in 1903 as well as to that of the Hague in 1913 and the National Peace Congress at Nimes in 1904.

His last published book, "The Evolution of French Canada", is a mark of good faith and pains-taking workmanship. In it he gives us the fruits of his careful study of the facts about French Canada, the evolution of its social life, its industry and art, and an aspect of its religion; and he gives us also as impartial a view as possible of the relations between England and French Canada. The author is now engaged in the preparation of a French edition rendering an account of this work.

Sir Sidney Lee's "King Edward VII" (Macmillan) is described by Professor Wilbur Abbott in the Atlantic Monthly as one of the most valuable and illuminating of the many admirable biographies which since Morley's "Gladstone" have enriched English literature and contributed to the knowledge of English history.

"Our Presidents" by James Morgan (Macmillan) contains brief biographies of the Presidents of the United States from Washington to Coolidge. Some of them, the author says, have been dreary mediocrities; perhaps most of them have been only commonplace, but, taken as a whole, no list of premiers and no other political succession since 1789 quite measures up to the presidential average in ability and character.

There is an interesting article on books about dogs by Walter A. Dyer in The Publishers' Weekly, April.

The Charles Boardman Hawes Prize for the best story of adventure of the past year has been awarded to Clifford M. Sublette for his story entitled "The Scarlet Cockerel," published by the Atlantic Monthly press.

Frederick L. Paxson's "History of the American Frontier" (Houghton) the American Historical Review says is likely to be recognised as the ablest one volume history of the West, though not, perhaps, the most readable.

"William T. Harris: a critical study of his educational and related philosophical views", by John S. Roberts, recently published by the National Education Association of the United States, discusses not only Dr. Harris's philosophical and pedagogical views in general and the relationship between them, but also his views on the course of study and on school management and methods of teaching.

In a symposium in The Book Dial, the house organ of Doubleday, Page, twenty writers tell how to start reading Joseph Conrad's books. Wilson Follett picks out "The Nigger of the Narcissus" to start with; Burton Rascoe, "Youth", which he calls one of the half dozen greatest short stories ever written, and Isabel Paterson says, "If I were introducing Conrad to a reader worthy of the privilege, I think I should give 'The Rover' first to a woman reader, and 'Typhoon' to a man."

"The Bullwhacker: adventures of a frontier freighter", by William F. Hooker (World Book Co.) contains in revised form a number of stories from the author's "Prairie Schooner", published in 1918. It is devoted to the recital of adventures with outlaws and Indians in Wyoming and Nebraska in the seventies in carrying freight by ox teams to military posts and Indian reservations before railroads had been extended to these frontier stations.
THE spirit of Brittany is expressed in its legends and festivals rather than in its architecture. For this reason the best book for those who would understand that interesting part of France is "The Land of Pardons" by Anatole le Braz. This book, translated by Frances M. Gostling, and first published in 1894, describes the legends and festivals of St. Ives, the pardon of the poor, of Rumengol, the pardon of the singers, of St. Ronary, the pardon of the mountain, and of St. Anne de Palude, the pardon of the sea. These four the author thought, made up the religious life of the Armorican Bretons. In later editions he added a fifth chapter devoted to St. Jean-du-Doigt and the pardon of fire.

Mrs. Mosher, too, would put this book first. "If but four books could be chosen from the many relating to Brittany", she says in her "Spell of Brittany", "let them be Le Braz' 'Land of Pardons', Pierre Loti's Pêcheurs d'Islande, Ernest Renan's Souvenirs d'Enfance et de Jeunesse, and Brizeux poem Marie. Loti's story, one of the loveliest, saddest and therefore truest idylls of Breton life ever written, is available in an English translation entitled 'An Iceland Fisherman'; Renan's 'Souvenirs' is called by Professor Mott, 'the most fascinating of all his writings'."

Mrs. Mosher's own book consists of essays descriptive of the literary associations of Brittany as well as its folklore and customs. Among
these are essays on Madame de Sévigné, Felix de Lamennais, Pierre Loti, and Ernest Renan.

Of general descriptions of Brittany, however, perhaps, the best is "A Book of Brittany", by S. Baring-Gould. This, after introductory chapters on the Breton people, prehistoric stories, the history of Brittany, its architecture, and the pardons, describes in some detail the different towns from Dinan to Rennes, their historic buildings and associations. Of traveller’s narratives "Brittany with Bergère", by William M. E. Whitelock (1914), is an entertaining account of a three weeks trip in a dog cart; "A Vagabond Voyage Through Brittany", by Mrs. Lewis Chase (1915), is a delightful record of travel by boat, with a tent for shelter and a "Guide des Voies Fluviales, Dinan à Nantes";

"Brittany and the Bretons", by George Wharton Edwards, is a large and elaborately illustrated record of summer wanderings.

Among other books in English are "A Childhood in Brittany Eighty Years Ago", by Anne Douglas Sedgwick (1919), which contains the memories of a French friend whose early life was passed in Quimper and its neighborhood, and "War Days in Brittany", by Mrs. Elsie Deming Jarves, a book printed for private distribution in 1920, consisting of letters written to friends in the United States who helped in the war work carried on by the author and her husband at their Chateau, Val Fleuri, Dinard.

The most useful guide book is that of Joanne, "The Seaside Resorts of Brittany", published by Hachette.

"Cavalier and Puritan: ballads and broadsides illustrating the period of the Great Rebellion, 1640-1660", edited by H. E. Rollins, professor of English in New York University (New York University Press) gives a more comprehensive view of the period of the interregnum than does any collection hitherto published, the editor says Only one of the broadsides has appeared in any modern ballad-book, and not more than six have been reprinted at any time.

In "Milton’s Theory of Poetry and Fine Art", Professor Ida Langdon collects the references in all of Milton’s works which throw light on his theory of fine art, and particularly of poetry and the drama. The chapters entitled "The service rendered by literature", "The principles of selection in reading and study", "Disdain of popular opinion" are of more than academic interest. As a whole, however it is a book for the learned rather than for the learner. It is published by the Yale University Press.

"Twenty-five Years of American Education", edited by Professor I.L. Kandel of Teachers College (The Macmillan Co.) is a collection of essays by former students of Professor Paul Monroe describing the progress which has been in educational theory and practice in the United States during the past twenty-five years, and indicating in some measure the field that still remains to be developed. It includes chapters on tests and measurements, school finance, vocational education, and the education of exceptional children.

"A King’s Lessons in Statecraft: Louis XIV" by Jean Longnon, translated by Herbert Wilson and published by T. Fisher Unwin, contains those parts of the royal author’s fragmentary memoirs which relate to the years 1661 and 1666. The former presents a general view of the state of France at the commencement of his reign. The latter shows the King in full diplomatic, political and military activity. The interest of both, however, consists not so much in the events themselves as in the political reflections which these events suggested. In addition to the memoirs the volume contains three other writings by Louis XIV, the first entitled "Reflections on the role of king", made up from notes written by him in 1679 on the necessity of inflicting punishment, the second, entitled Instructions to the Duc d’Anjou", written in 1700, and the third the "Plan of a speech”, written in 1710.

There is a list of editions of Beaumarchais available for study in New York City in the New York Public Library Bulletin for January.
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The primary aim of Ex Libris is to give its readers information in regard to the best American and English books of general interest. The primary aim of the American Library is to make these books available to its members throughout Europe.

The report of the American Library for April shows gifts of books amounting to 370. Among the donors were the Vicomte du Peloux, Mr. Edward Kirstein of Boston, and Mr. de Roth. Mr. Kirstein's gift consisted of a carefully chosen collection of books on American business practice made at Mr. Kirstein's request by the Boston Public Library with the assistance of specialists at Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The total number of subscribers registered was 403.

Included in the following new members: Mrs. Susan Dielman, Mrs. E. C. Heartt, Monsieur G. Hoebelin, Miss L. M. Lindsay, Mrs. A. M. Prosser, and Major N. Sitwell.

Among those who were already members of the Library one, Mr. B. H. Flurscheim, expressed his desire to increase his annual subscription from one hundred francs to five hundred.

The book circulation for the month was 10,030 or five per cent more than during the corresponding month last year.

A GREAT LIBRARIAN

There are great librarians of small libraries and small librarians of great libraries. Dr. Billings of the New York Public Library, when he died in 1913, was a great librarian of a great library, and Mr. Lydenberg in his recently published "John Shaw Billings" has written an account of his career which should take its place among a librarian's books of inspiration beside Mr. Prothero's memoir of Henry Bradshaw.

Bradshaw represented European librarianship as Dr. Billings represented American, librarianship, but different as the two were, in one respect they were alike; Dr. Billings like Bradshaw was a scholar, and understood the needs of scholars. It was this that led to his conception of a national medical library, one in which a student might hope to find a large part of the literature relating to any medical subject, and equal, if not superior, to any library of the kind in Europe. His dream of such a library came to him in 1861, while he was still a medical student in Cincinnati, and the opportunity for its realization materializes with his transfer to the Surgeon-General's Office in 1864. The story of his work in making that great collection of books, and in the preparation of the "Index Catalogue" and the "Index Medicus", by which the collection was made useful to medical students, is given in two most interesting chapters.

Even more interesting, however, is the story of the last years of Dr. Billings's life as librarian of the New York Public Library. Notable as were his achievements in the organization of the library of the Surgeon-General's Office
between 1864 and 1895, those which distinguished his work between the latter date and the date of his death in 1913 were more notable still because they embraced the extension of library service, not only to men of science but also to men of affairs; also because they involved the solution of the problems of the special library as well as those of the general library which are common to every large community throughout the world. It took him thirty-one years to do what he did at the Surgeon-General’s office; in New York it took him only seventeen. This was due largely to the assistance which he received from an able Board of Trustees, and from an efficient library staff, but it was due in part, no doubt, to the fact that when he went to New York he had back of him thirty-one years’ experience as bibliographer and librarian.

**The Virginia Quarterly Review**

The first number of the *Virginia Quarterly Review*, published by the University of Virginia, appeared in April. Among its contributors are Gamaliel Bradford, who contributes a captivating study of Dolly Madison, President Alderman, who writes on “Edgar Allan Poe and the University of Virginia”, and Luigi Pirandello, who gives an intriguing glimpse into the inner workings of the creative mind. Daniel Gregory Mason also contributes an article on sensationalism in recent musical efforts, and Joseph Collins supplies an interesting appraisal of Anatole France.

**French Book Selection**

For the month of April the Literary Committee of the “Société Selviana” of Paris chose the following books as the best in its opinion:

- Charles Maurras: *La musique intérieure*
- André Chevrier: *de l’Académie Française: L’enchantement breton*
- Julien Benda: *Lettres à Mélišande*
- Henri Deberly: *L’ennemi des siens*
- Blaise Cendrars: *L’or*
- Charles Bonnefon: *Histoire d’Allemagne*
- Marc Lafargue: *Corot: Edouard Ganche: Dans le souvenir de Frédéric Chopin*
- Pierre Alype: *Sous la couronne de Salomon: L’Empire des Nègres*
- Charles Bonnefon: *Histoire de la Nation française: histoire des sciences en France*

Of Aldous Huxley’s “Those Barren Leaves” (Chatto and Windus) the *Nation* says, “Mr. Huxley has never written a richer book or one in which clearer or more cogent thought lay behind the superficial extravagance of his manner. Perhaps because he himself revoluted in horror from his own hideous masterpiece, ‘Antic Hay’, he has returned to the manner of ‘Chrome Yellow’.”

There is a selected list of books by and about the Negro in the *Survey Graphic* for March.

Theodore Stanton, whose death has just been reported, spent most of his life in Paris, and it was as an interpreter of American Literature to Europe, the *Nation* says, that he performed his most interesting function in letters. He edited a manual of American Literature for the Tauchnitz edition, and for ten years conducted a literary department in the *Mercure de France* devoted to the United States.

A collection of several hundred volumes consisting of various editions of the works of Montaigne and of books relating to him, was recently given to the Princeton University Library by Mme. Le Brun, in the name of Pierre Le Brun, New York architect. All of the known editions of the great author’s works published before his death in 1592, including the excessively rare Bordeaux edition of the essays of 1580, are represented in the collection. Professor Louis Cons, of the university faculty in commenting on the gift, says “the Princeton University Library now possesses one of four or five leading collections of Montaigne in the world and one of the two largest in the United States”. That portion of the collection consisting of books and parts of books relating to Montaigne is one of the most complete in the world.

In an article on current English fiction in the *Nineteenth Century* for April, H. C. Harwood says, “We have no Novelist Laureate. If we had, Mr. Hardy would deserve the appointment.”

A compendium of the articles written by Mr. Friedman on Zionism for the last few years,—such is the main character of this book by the author of “International Finance and its Reorganisation”. It lacks unity in composition, profoundness in thinking; but it is a handy and easily read review of the problems concerning the Jews’ destiny.

The substance of Mr. Friedman’s treatise may be thus summarised: Scattered minorities are bound to disappear. The Jews who exist no more as a community, even in Russia, are bound to be assimilated. Yet, they are worth being preserved as a culture-bearing people. Hence the necessity of congregating the scattered Jews in Palestine.

In a word, the author is a Zionist and explains why. The chapter headings are interesting for various reasons. The one, for instance, preceding Chapter VII, “Zionism and the American Spirit” is questionable even by non-members of the Ku Klux Klan. Is it really possible for a man “to love the traditions of his childhood and his race, etc... without the least detraction from the loyalty that he gives to the country of his birth or adoption”? Pierre Denoyer.


This excellent travel book on Algeria and Tunis is a revised edition of “The Land of Mosques and Minarets”—a book that has been a standard success for a good many years—and it yields a great deal of information for the armchair traveller.

Although, as stated in the introduction, conditions have materially changed in the comfort with which one travels nowadays even to the more remote places, yet, the ways of the native—be he Arab, Jew, or Berber—have not altered very much, least of all in the desert.

The camel, which, it is explained, is not a camel at all, but a dromedary, has a whole chapter, and so has the Arabian steed, though he is not always the dashing mount one expects to see when taking the Arabian Nights as one’s basic authority. The Barbary Coast revives childhood thrills of daring pirates and in the ruins of Carthage one senses a glory that shone when Rome was still young—before the African conquest of Caesar and Augustus, and centuries before the arrival of the Vandals.

The book is illustrated with sketches by Blanche McManus, and has several good maps. Marguerite Holm.


A book of critical studies, well worth the reader’s time and concentration. From Nathaniel Hawthorne to Katherine Mansfield, the author diligently surveys the Modern Short Story and its accomplishments. He is not given to generalization, for in each chapter we note a unity of purpose. His paramount aim is the short story, as best understood by studying the men who have been its builders and have given this form of literature its present important position. This is not a text book for young hopefuls who aspire to the pages of current magazines; it does not say “two tea-spoonfuls of plot, a pinch of characterization, boiled three minutes over a quick fire”. It is a concentrated dish of criticism, well seasoned and neatly served.

Harriet S. Bailey.


The mania for literary prizes in France has proved a golden means of publicity to publishing houses. It is unfortunate that no collections of short stories have been included among these awards, for this might have proved a stimulus toward a renaissance of that form of literature used as a medium in the past by some of the greatest French writers.

The O. Henry Prize Stories is a most excellent collection. But it would have had a greater interest to me, a Frenchman, if the stories were limited to a portrayal of American life. When Richard Connell, in “A Friend of Napoleon’s”, and James Mahoney, in “The Hat of Eight Reflections”, write about France and the French, they may convince an American audience; but to us, their knowledge of French psychology is sadly lacking.

Other elements than the true tints of local color, are, of course, equally necessary to the successful short story,—style, discrimination in the choice of characters, unity and sequence of thought,—these are all of the first importance. In this respect, one might cite, as being out-standing in the collection, Miss Synon's...
“Shadowed”, Floyd Dell’s “Phantom Adventure”, and R. S. Lemmon’s “Bamboo Trap”.  
  R. de Maratray.


The life story of one of the outstanding scientists of modern times is told by a man who worked in the same organization and was in more or less daily contact with him for several years.

Dr. Steinmetz, as the world knows, afflicted by severe physical handicaps, rose by sheer brain power to the highest honors the engineering profession had to offer. This biography gives us an intimate picture of his childhood days, his student period at the universities of Breslau and Zurich and his encounters with governmental authority due to socialistic activities. It then transports us, via steerage, to America, to Yonkers, New York, where his first history-making work on magnetism or hysteresis was carried on at the little plant of Rudolph Eickemeyer, one of the electrical pioneers. When this factory and business was taken over by the General Electrical Company in 1892 Steinmetz was transferred with others of the staff, and there he remained a much loved character till the end of his life.

Dr. Steinmetz’s work with alternating currents soon became one of the cornerstones of the science of electricity but his later spectacular investigations with artificial lightning brought him much more prominently to the attention of the layman.

The story of all these involved technical researches is told in a manner readily understandable by one who may not, as Will Rogers once said, “Know a short circuit from a long shot”, and the kindly, companionable side of his daily and home life is charmingly depicted.

In brief, the book is by no means a critical character analysis, or of a retrospective nature, but the story of a great man who lived simply told in a simple manner.

A. L. Powell.


This syllabus has two distinct phases. First, it gives a list of books covering world problems; second, it gives an outline of the major phases of those problems. The primary purpose is to provide for a “one-year course affording a comprehensive survey of the history as well as the economic, geographic, sociological and other aspects of international relations”. For elementary students the syllabus will be a valuable guide. It is to be regretted that in many instances, the author has selected references that are of the least value. In a work covering the general field of international relations, however, the value of different chapters is necessarily uneven. Considered as a whole, the syllabus should be of value to college students.


Mrs. Webster’s excellent book is one that cannot be dealt with fairly in a short review. Briefly, however, the author traces the revolutionary movements which have taken place in Europe and Asia in recent years to the activities of secret societies. She gives us, based on serious documentation, a clear survey of the social events which owe their existence to these secret organizations, and studies their various kinds, explaining their aims and methods of action.

Mrs. Webster has here given to the public a profound and scientific work for the study of the social and political history of Europe.

A. Mischtchenko.


This is a personal remembrance indeed. Conrad is the pretext for the author to say much about himself. Mr. Ford, pretending to ignore the pronoun “I”, always says instead, “the writer”, a form of false modesty which irritates. But that impression, though bad, is of no great importance; Conrad is the person in question, not Mr. Ford.

Conrad, born in Poland, as everyone knows, was taken to England when a child by an emissary of Lord Palmerston. Lord Palmerston at that time was sowing gold all over Poland to blow foes in Russia’s face. The young boy, whose father was one of the Polish Revolutionaries, lived in exile in England with his mother for several years, and this, no doubt, is the curious origin of his ambition to be taken for an English country gentleman of the time of Lord Palmerston.

Although there can be nothing “personal” in the recollections of Conrad’s youth, Mr. Ford not having known him till much later, the early years are dwelt on in some detail,—the years at sea and in the Orient, as well as his magnificent mastering of the English language. Nevertheless, he knew French better than English.
in French he was perfectly at home, in English never. Why he chose the latter language as his medium in writing would seem rather perplexing. Mr. Ford, however, gives a possible explanation. On the one hand, Conrad used to say that in English there were no stylists, or rare ones, while the French bristled with them. Hence possibly his ambition to be one of the rare English stylists of the century. Mr. Ford writes: "It is in pausing for a word that lies the salvation of all writers. The proof of prose is in the percentage of right words". French words came with such thoughtless ease to Conrad, that in English it was doubtless only in the pregnant, rather groping pause, that he would fall upon le mot juste.

One of the charms of Mr. Ford’s book is the rare quality of his own writing, personal, colorful, concise,—a quality of which, however, he is well aware, since he speaks of himself as "the finest stylist in the English language".

Pierre Denoyer.


It is highly appropriate that the first authoritative book on the life and work of Charles Fraser should be from the pen of Miss Alice Huger Smith. For if Charles Fraser of Charleston occupies a place all his own among the early American miniature painters, Miss Huger Smith has created an art of her own in her drawings, etchings, and aquarelles of Charleston and of the Coast Country, whose suggestive lines and enchanting color render with new qualities of subtlety, fidelity, and ideality the scenes familiar to her childhood and seized with rare understanding by her artist eye.

Miss Huger Smith has here applied the same careful method of research and selection which characterized her former volume "The Dwelling Houses of Charleston", for which she also had the enlightened collaboration of her father, Mr. D. E. Huger Smith. The fifty or more miniatures which serve as illustrations are of men and women whose names are distinguished in the annals of the State, and include furthermore the miniature of La Fayette painted by Fraser for the City of Charleston on the occasion of the Franco-American patriot’s visit there in 1825. These miniatures, most of which still belong to the descendants of those who sat for them, were loaned to Miss Huger Smith for the purpose of her present book; forming a new and unique 'Fraser Gallery' which recalls the original Gallery brought together in Charleston in 1857, three years before the great artist’s death.

The life of Charles Fraser, as told in these pages, presents him in his varied abilities as being a true South Carolinian in education and traditional spirit. Born August 20, 1782, he witnessed in his youth the days of financial struggle which followed the Revolution; he played an active part in civic life, practised successfully at the Bar, became a noted orator on social subjects, followed with keen interest the political developments in the South, and died on the eve of the Civil War.

He had been admitted to the Bar in 1807, and continued to practise until 1818 when the taste for art which he had felt since boyhood became irresistible in its attraction. It was in 1800 that he took up miniature painting, his first master being a French artist named Belzons, but the influence of Malbone being, according to Miss Huger Smith, very evident in his work from 1818, when he withdrew from the Bar and began his artistic career properly speaking, until 1830, which inaugurated his great period. Miss Huger Smith writes:

"As we approach 1830, his own distinctive style becomes very sure and beautiful, and probably owes something to the greater familiarity with the work of others, made possible by his frequent visits to the North, and by the temporary sojourn in Charleston of many noted painters of the day."

"He employed more of the stipple and less of the cross-hatching; and one of the very fine points, shown in his colour schemes, reaches perhaps its highest mark. This point is his use of grey backgrounds—but grey with differences; grey like the feathers of a dove, shading sometimes blue, sometimes yellow; grey with a green or perhaps a warm pinkish tone, but always luminous and never muddy. At all periods he introduced occasionally clouds and blue sky; but these grey backgrounds he is apt to break in his rectangular miniatures with a column or the edge of a wall or window. His flesh tones are almost always fresh and transparent, and the modelling very delicately yet firmly done."

"After about 1840 there is to be noted a change in his style; but, as few examples of the following decade have been available for this examination, this opinion may have been formed on insufficient numbers. The work seems to be broader and coarser, but that he sometimes equalled his former average is shown by the reproduction of the very charming miniature of Miss Elizabeth Sarah Faber, painted in 1846."

"His grasp of character throughout his career is amazing, and he is uncompromising in hi,
delineation. His sitters are before you, looking out at you, and you may like them or you may not, just as you may or may not care for an acquaintance; but they seem ready to take their part in conversation with you on any subject. They are not there to be observed—they are individuals to be considered. Such is the impression made by a gathering of Fraser miniatures. Perhaps this is because of the painter’s own attitude towards his subjects. He knew them. Their lives and his moved on together, and he presented the individuality of each. This is shown markedly in his portraiture of the long line of notable men who helped to make the history of his time, and with most of whom he had intimate and personal association.

The publisher of “Charles Fraser”, Mr. Frederic Fairchild Sherman, announces that this is the “first volume of a new series devoted to the greatest of the early American miniaturists”. Later volumes will deal with Malbone, Robert Field, Benjamin Trott, and others.

There is an imperative need for such a series. In wishing it success, one may venture to express the hope that the volumes to follow may present the same living interest and high documentary value as the initial work which Miss Alice R. Huger Smith and Mr. D. E. Huger Smith have so admirably compiled.

Warrington Dawson.


If one is at all interested in James Elroy Flecker, this “Life” will prove useful, though not entirely satisfactory. It gives us chronological facts, some little insight, but for the most part leaves us wondering just what was Flecker, outside the order of events from his birth to his tragically early death? Geraldine Hodgson has been faithful in the task of collecting material and writing it down, yet one grows a little restless under the feeling of restraint and the complete effacement of the biographer. A good biographer should undoubtedly give pre-eminence to his subject, yet not to the utter obliteration of self, for after all, we are concerned with what men think of men quite as much as we are with the personality of the man about whom we may be reading. So Flecker is given to us faithfully, deliberately, and rather prosaically. We feel a lack of comprehension, of intimate touch, and perhaps of humor, since in our dealings with one another, we have so great a need of this last characteristic.

Harriet S. Bailey.


The Hudson of the “Letters to Edward Garnett” is essentially the Hudson of the “Traveler in Little Things”, of “Far and Away and Long Ago”, and above all of “A Shepherd’s Life”, that story of the remote, downland places. They are the letters of a man who “looks on the wars of kites and crows as of more importance than our petty human affairs”, a man whose spirit is wild and shy as that of a bird, whose only real human loves are the little children at play.

There is nothing new, nothing startling in these simple, friendly letters; there is perhaps nothing which would even interest very much one who did not know Hudson’s other writings. Their charms lie, for the most part, in their simplicity and sincerity, and in the glimpse which all such letters give into the heart of the writer.

One thing alone we might wish,—that we had been spared the some twenty pages of reintroduction to Hudson, which Mr. Garnett gives us. To one who knows Hudson’s works it is unnecessary,—to one who does not know them it could be nothing but tedious.

J. A. L. Shercliff.


A number of years ago an unknown writer named Thomas Burke published a book of short stories called “Limehouse Nights”. It was, and for the most part, deservedly, an enormous success, but it had unfortunate results: the public clamored for more and Mr. Burke endeavored to satisfy their appetite. The consequence was that he wrote (“turned out” would be more apt) stories at such speed that they degenerated into the sad field of cheap sentimentality and and sensationalism, where all artistry is lost. Therefore, it is especially pleasant to be able to record Mr. Burke’s reappearance in the world of letters with the publication of “The Wind and the Rain”. It is, we are led to believe, quite faithfully autobiographic; it vibrates, certainly, with the true ring of experience,—and such experience! Childhood in the slums of London, adolescence in one of those terrible, arid institutions ironically known as “Homes”; and after that, an existence of alternating struggle, elation and despair. But through it all there always burned, though sometimes unsteadily, the flame of hope and faith and curiosity.
The book is written simply, without apparent effort. It has humor and it has charm.

M. R.


To laugh is a delicious thing; and one can be quite sure of laughing when one reads any of "Elizabeth's" books. This new one is no exception. And the enviable quality of her humor is its delicacy; it is not slapstick and clownish, but lightly, charmingly and erudite.

Perhaps, in "Love", a few situations are a shade overdrawn, perhaps it is fifty or so pages longer than it need be, but it is a very real tale for all that,—that is, psychologically real. The types "Elizabeth" chooses are all so possible,—the wooden, austere cleric; his earnest, loving, humorless young wife, and the young wife's mother, whose spirit is forever young and who, because of the exuberant, irrepressible young Christopher who loves her, clings so desperately, so poignantly, to the externals of youth and all its signs. Men, one feels, are not very popular with "Elizabeth"; looking back over her other books, it seems as if she had a score to settle with them; she is still settling it in "Love", and one can imagine her, narrowing her eyes, smiling with satisfaction over some of the miserable specimens she has photographed.

M. R.

The Constant Nymph, by Margaret Kennedy.

A well written book and what is popularly known as a "Best Seller" have usually very little in common. Nevertheless, publishers notice and bookshop windows proclaim Margaret Kennedy's "Constant Nymph" to be a Best Seller, and certainly it is an undeniably well written book. This is only Miss Kennedy's second novel, and she is said to be a very young person; but again, in a contradictory manner, she writes with the experience and sure, firm touch of a seasoned author. One gathers that she has read a great many of the Russians; that she admires them there is no doubt,—not that she is imitative; rather she is adaptable.

The "constant nymph" is an amazing member of the amazing Sanger family, all of whom are casual, spontaneous, charming, irrational, natural and, to anyone who is not at least some of these things, exhausting. They have a bewildering, almost enviable, facility for obeying their impulses in act and speech; and all without a trace of posey bohemianism.

They were, in their own orbit, known collectively as Sanger's Circus, a nickname earned for them by their wandering existence, their vulgarity, their conspicuous brilliance, the noise they made, and the kind of naptha-flare genius which illuminated everything they said or did. Their father had given them a good sound musical training and nothing else. They had received no sort of regular education, but, in the course of their travels, had picked up a good deal of mental furniture, and "could abuse each other most profanely in the argot of four languages."

One is often exquisitely amused, but that is only by-play. This is not an "amusing book": It is an important one.

M. R.

James Branch Cabell, by Carl Van Doren.

Professor Carl Van Doren is not one of those persons to whom one can lay the charge of immutability of idea. And this is excellent. He does not belong to that arid group who see good only in the past, or the young group, intent upon displaying their nakedness, who see it only in the present. No,—in former days he has written sapiently and with feeling upon Hawthorne, Melville, et al., while of late he has been turning his critical, discriminating eye upon the present in general, (see "Many Minds"), and upon James Branch Cabell in particular. It seems to our mild observation that he is a little carried away by Mr. Cabell: that he crowns him with "rose and rue and laurel" all at once. Certainly he has painted him in his most becoming costume, charmingly postured in the light of an alluring ambiance. However, this small volume has been most carefully thought out; it is a very scholarly brief; it will cause the Cabellites to clap loud and long, and it may convert some others who do not yet belong to the Cult.

M. R.


Mr. Kidder is the Doctor Schliemann of an American Ilios. Under the patronage of Phillips Academy he began his field work in June 1915 at the Pecos ruins, New Mexico, and at once found that the site was far more important and promising than had been supposed. A
decade has elapsed, six seasons have been spent in excavating, about twelve per cent of the entire ruin has been cleared, some 1200 skeletons have been taken out, and a preliminary report on the work done, and on its import on Southwestern Archaeology has been issued. It shows that the main results so far obtained at this site, the largest in the Southwest, and the one which was the longest inhabited, have been to determine the true sequence of the pottery types, thus furnishing a perfect chronology of the cultures, from the founding of Pecos to the exodus of the last inhabitants. Yet, the Pecos site, as all the Rio Grande larger sites generally, gives only the most recent cultures, those which left pottery wares as testimonies of their existence. The breeding ground of all the successive cultures in the Southwest, from Basket-Maker to pre-Pueblo, seems to have been the San Juan drainage, and it is not rash to assume that the Basket-Maker culture began between 3500 to 4000 years ago.

In conclusion, the author modestly presents his attempt as a "working hypothesis". At any rate, we hail with delight this synopsis, illustrated with beautiful photos in relief, embracing all the main culture areas in the Southwest and outlining their intricate inter-relations. We are confident that, with the forthcoming harvests of facts, the American archaeologists will soon achieve a complete reconstruction of these cultures, and at last find the clue of their origins.

Albert Milice.


"I was a rapid reader," says Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, "so rapid that some small library with which we dealt gave my mother notice that the books would not be changed more than twice a day." The impression which the "Memories and Adventures" conveys to the reader is just this—that the writer has read rapidly, observed rapidly, and written rapidly, with perhaps too little attention to grace of style and expression.

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DOLMAN, Alfred. In the Footsteps of Livingston, being the Diaries and Travel Notes made by Alfred Dolman, ed. by John Irving. London. John Lane. 1924.


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**EGAN, Maurice Francis.** Recollections of a Happy Life. New York. Doran. 1924.


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Sinclair Upton. Mammonart, an Essay in Economic Interpretation. Pasadena, Calif. 1924.

Stewart, Donald Ogden. Mr. and Mrs. Hadcock Abroad. New York. Doran. 1924.


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KIDDER, ALFRED VINCENT. An Introduction to the Study of Southwestern Archaeology with a Preliminary Account of the Excavations at Pecos. New Haven: Yale Univ. Press. 1924. (Dept. of Archaeology, Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass.)

FICTION


CHILD, RICHARD WASHBURN. Fresh Waters and Other Stories. New York: Dutton. 1924.


MARSHALL, ARCHIBALD. Education of Anthony Dare. New York: Dodd Mead & Co. 1924.


VANCE, LOUIS JOSEPH. Mrs. Paramore. New York: Dutton. 1924.


FRENCH


"Toulouse in the Renaissance" by Professor John Charles Dawson (Columbia University Press) consists of three parts: The Floral Games of Toulouse, University and Student Life at Toulouse in the 16th Century, and Etienne Dolet at Toulouse. The first of these was published in separate form in 1921; the other two parts now published for the first time, add not only to the completeness of this valuable study of the Renaissance in France, but also to our knowledge of university life during that period.

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American Journal of International Law, January: The Third Year of the Permanent Court of International Justice, Manley O. Hudson. The Outlawry of War, Quinsey Wright. The Meaning of Pan-Americanism, Joseph B. Lockey.
The Dial, May: Honoré de Balzac, Hugo von Hofmannthal.
The Educational Record, April: International Educational Relations of the United States.
The Independent, April 4: Herriot and the Vatican, T. H. Thomas.
— April 11: The Disintegration of D. H. Lawrence, Vance Palmer.
— April 11: The Real Victors in Germany. The Meaning of Bodily Shape and Size.
— May 2: Caillaux's Political Resurrection.
— April 25: Mexico and the League, Rafael Nieto.
The Nation, April 15: How Anatole France Turned against the War, Paul Vaillant-Couturier.
— April 22: Canada turns against Prohibition, Richard de Brisay.
The National Geographic Magazine, May: Through the Back-Doors of Belgium, Melville Chater.

BRITISH

Foreign Affairs, May: Minority Protection through the League of Nations, Dr. Wilhelm Medinger.
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Europe, 15 Avril : Apres la Mort de Marcel Proust, Georges Gabory.
Europe Nouvelle, 2 Mai : La Semaine rouge en Bulgarie, Marcel Ray.
Marges, 15 Avril : Flaubert a l'ecole de Gaste, Rene Dumesnil.

"Humane Society Leaders in America" by Sydney H. Coleman, formerly editor of the National Humane Review, (The American Humane Association), contains biographical sketches of Henry Bergh, founder of the Anti-Cruelty cause in the United States, of Elbridge T. Gerry and his work for the prevention of cruelty to children, of George T. Angell, "The Apostle of Human Education", and of William O. Stillman, the first president of The American Humane Association, together with chapters on other organisations for the protection of animals and other movements for child saving developed from anti-cruelty work.

In a review of Ellen Glasgow's "Barren Ground", (Doubleday) in World's Work, Cameron Rogers says, "The heritage of 'Barren Ground' promises to be greater than that of any other realistic novel of contemporary American letters."


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Of Anne Douglas Sedgwick's "Franklin Winslow Kane", first published in 1909, Hugh Walpole said recently, "It seems to me still the best of Mrs. de Selincourt's books and in my humble opinion better, a good deal, than this last successful one". By this he refers to "The Little French Girl" in which English and French characteristics are contrasted in the same vivid manner that American and English characteristics were in the earlier work.
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