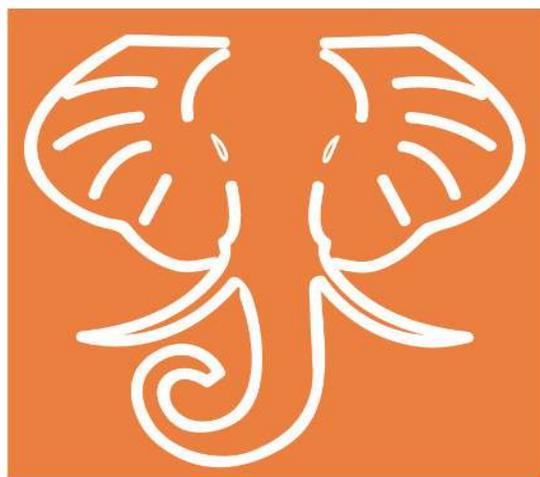


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MARY WHITE OVINGTON

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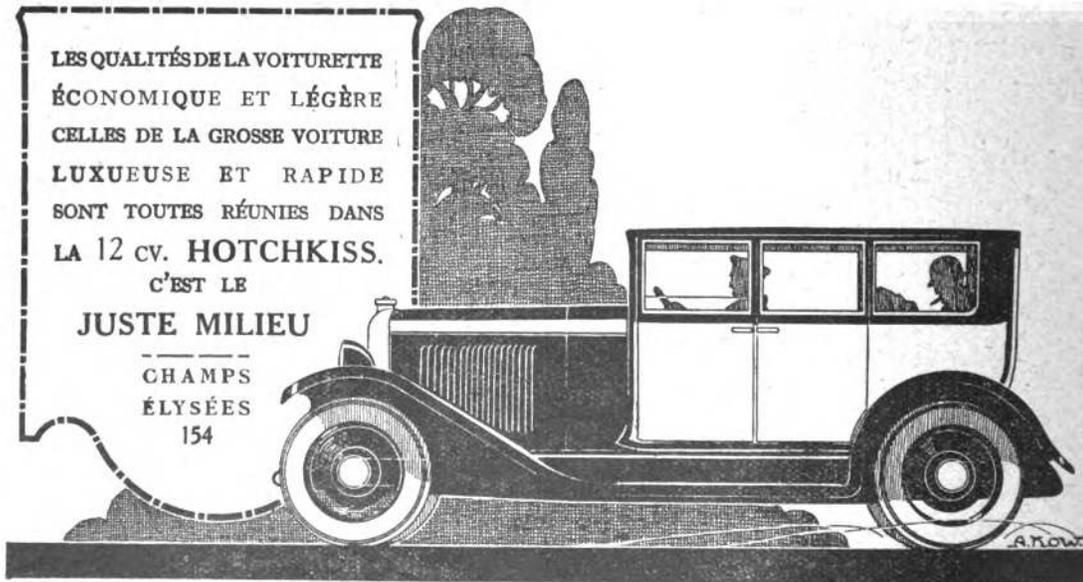
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The Paris of the "Tale of two Cities"

A "Tale of Two Cities" shows on every page the careful study which Dickens made of the topography of the French Revolution. We know that he lived in the rue de Courcelles while the book was in preparation but one must actually follow him in his Parisian rambles to appreciate the labor expended on what is perhaps the clearest and most enlightening sketch of the French Revolution now in print. With the impatience of the trained reporter for non-essentials, he has stripped that great convulsion down to first principles; and, touching the story with his magic wand, has put before us a moving drama, where the historian can give little more than a series of tableaux, more or less like. Hence he avoids the error of filling his story with the names of actors which signify nothing to the average reader, and merely obstruct the narrative; he gives no space to the play of political self-interest, the passion of parties, or the venality of individuals. He shows the revolution as it really was—the bloody overthrow of a cruel oligarchy, drunk with power, by a people crazed by oppression and tyranny. No writer has more clearly shown the critical point of the French Revolution, which was the time when a majority of the nation, including every rank and class, driven to bay, looked with desperate hatred instead of cringing fear into the faces of their oppressors. This is finely symbolized in the "Two Cities" when, over the body of the murdered child, Madame Defarge throws back the gold, and stares down the enemy of her people with fearless eyes.

It is a favorite comment of Dickens critics that the "Tale of Two Cities" is "not really Dickens". It is commonly believed, Wilkie Collins had much to do with the plot. As a matter of fact Collins seems to have contributed only one idea—that of Carton's motive in sacrificing himself. For this Dickens gave Collins credit. Far more influence seems to have been exercised by Carlyle's "French Revolution",

which during Dickens' young manhood had upset the traditional English attitude toward that event. That this should have influenced Dickens seems inevitable. That it did so, the evidence of the book itself seems conclusive. It appears in the style in several parts of the story—most notably in the account of the attack on the Bastille. Here both the incident selected and the style itself suggest the same thing. Choclat, the wine-dealer, serving his cannon against the eight strong towers, the murder of De Launay at the Hotel de Ville, the seven released prisoners borne aloft, the seven heads on pikes with their drooping eyelids, the fury of the women, are not more convincing than the author's sudden change of style which in its curt and pregnant phrases is Carlyle, purged of his frequent pedantry and obscurity.

Appropriately, Dickens begins his revolutionary narrative in a wineshop. It is not an accident that the wineshops of Paris were so intimately related to the revolutions of 1789, 1830 and 1848. For revolutions are rooted in human misery, for which wine is the readiest anaesthetic. Hence the saloon becomes a sort of primary in seasons of popular discontent.

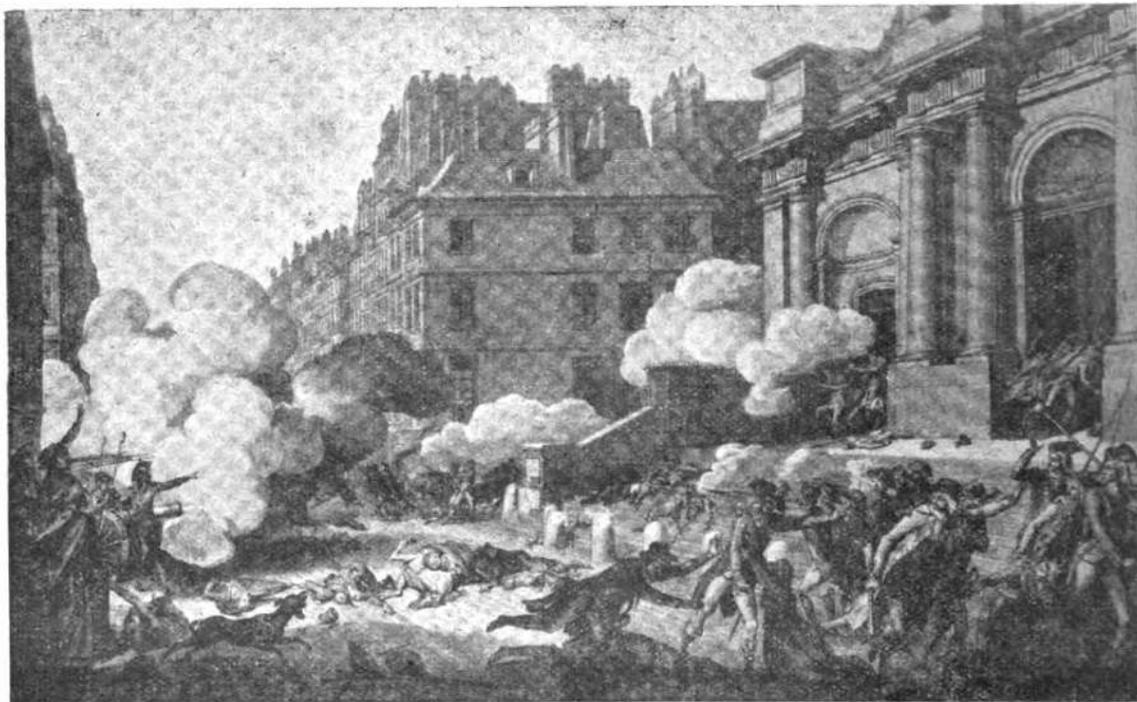
Somewhere east of the rue Mablou and north of the Seine, there echoed, a century and a half ago the footsteps of the Defarges and their companions. Through some of the low archways which give upon the sidewalks, we may even now catch glimpses of the Paris of 1775, little villages hidden in the heart of spaces invisible from the modern streets; their ancient houses eaten by time, soiled with the grime of centuries, buildings that were old when Ernest Defarge was a youth in the employ of the rising Doctor of Beauvais. The streets are barely wide enough for one vehicle, there are no sidewalks, and the shops are still grim and silent witnesses to the poverty of the people. On the signs the butcher still paints up only the leanest scrap of meat, the baker, the coarsest loaves of bread; hunger still exudes from "every dead dog preparation

offered for sale". Jacques Two may well have said to Defarge so long ago, "It is not often that these miserable beasts know the taste of anything but black bread and death".

Here is a little wine shop in a 16th or 17th century dwelling which might be Defarge's very own. It is small, dark and dismal. A stern looking young woman cashier and waiter combined sits waiting for trade. One or two

imagination to see the black-haired, black-eyed Frenchwoman pinning the warning rose in her hair ; or four sullen-looking wretches stealing softly up the worn steps of the stoniest airway to peep at,—what? An old-young, broken man making shoes.

Not far from here, on the rue de Sévigné (then the rue Culture de St-Catherine) are the remains of the old prison of La Force. Through a low



JOURNÉE DU XIII VENDÉMAIRE, L'AN IV.

From an old Print.

wretched-looking customers slowly sip their wine at one of the rude tables. Over the door a painted sign, "Le Bon Coin"—a piece of unconscious irony. The sign also says "Vin blanc 10c Vin rouge 15c". We wonder how anyone can make a living by serving wine at such prices per glass "tout compris". One does not have to make believe very much to see the eager competition for the contents of the broken cask, or to visualize *Gaspard*, writing "Blood" on the wall with the wine lees.

In such places echoed the footsteps of the Jacquerie, secretly at first, while the lightning was being stored up against the day of wrath ; loudly and madly when the storm had broken and its crashings caused every throne in Europe to totter. Standing here, it takes only a little

archway at No. 11, marked by a sign of the "Baths of St. Catherine" one enters upon what was once the courtyard of La Force. The back wall is all that remains of the "old" prison. On it is this inscription : "Ce mur est le seul qui existe encore de l'ancienne prison de la Force. C'est sur l'emplacement de ce jardin ci-devant que furent massacrés sous la Révolution 31 prisonniers."

This is where in Dickens' story Dr. Manette saved his son-in-law from the mob in the prison massacres of Sept 2-5, 1792. Actually it was the scene of the murder of Mme. Lamballe, the queen's friend, whose mutilated and dismembered remains were carried as trophies round the streets. At this time Louis and his queen had been less than three weeks at

the Temple. It was proposed to carry Mme. Lamballe's head thither, and force the queen to look at it. Less horrible counsels, however, finally prevailed. It is characteristic of Dickens' treatment of the whole subject that he ignores the politicians who incited the massacres, and confines his narrative to the blind ferocity of the mob, the initial responsibility for which he does not hesitate to place. In other words, he sticks to the main stream of cause and effect, and refuses to be deflected by eddies and whirlpools—political or personal.

Half a mile further west the Hotel de Ville recalls the fearful scene of the murder of De Launay, Governor of the Bastille on the night of July 14, 1789, when Mme. Defarge decapitated the old warrior with her own hands; and of the murder of Toulon at the same place only a few days later. Both these descriptions are strictly historical in their main features. Dickens here identifies two actual characters almost the only cases of the sort in his whole story. It is interesting to remember that here two illustrious men struggled vainly for hours to save the life of the shrieking Toulon, before Defarge "sprung over the railing and folded the miserable wretch in a deadly embrace". Those two were Lafayette and Bailly.

Here too was the Place de Grève where the horrid torture of Damiens occurred in 1757, as described (and very lightly described) by Dickens in Chapter XV. It requires strong nerves to read the full story of that execution, at which a throng of "ladies of quality" complacently looked on until nightfall, when the victim "had lost two arms and a leg, and still breathed."

The church of St. Roch on the rue St. Honoré was a favorite stand for the populace, from which to view the daily passage of the tumbrils from the Conciergerie to the guillotine, when executions took place at the Place de la Revolution (now Concorde). The route was over the Pont au Change, west on the Quai de la Megisserie, north on the rue de la Monnaie, west on the rue St. Honoré, and south on the rue Royale to the scaffold. On the steps of St. Roch stood the spy (Barsad) when Carton passed in the tumbril holding the hand of the little seamstress.

"The face of Evremonde is for a moment turned toward him. Evremonde then sees the spy, looks attentively at him and goes his way."

One of Dickens' finest pieces of work, that—a supreme moment described in a sentence, and

left to the reader's own dramatic instinct, unhampered by the theatricalism of which Dickens was sometimes justly accused. It was at the steps of St. Roch that a furious woman spat at Marie Antoinette as she passed to her death.

The Conciergerie is only incidentally a part of the "Two Cities". All the grist for the guillotine passed through this mill. One is shown the grating where the prisoners awaited the tumbrils, and where the little seamstress must have detected Carton. But there was a man behind that grating on July 28, 1794, whom we must believe to have inspired the chief detail in Carton's sacrifice. On the preceding day the aged Lieut. Gen. Loiserolles (who with his son was confined in the prison of St. Lazare) was present at the reading of the "Evening Paper", and heard his son's name read out. The latter was asleep in his cell. The old General answered to the name and stepped into his son's place. The error was not discovered by the Revolutionary Tribunal, and the old General passed to the guillotine with the very last victims of the Terror. That day Robespierre was outlawed and executed, and Paris awoke from her bloody delirium.

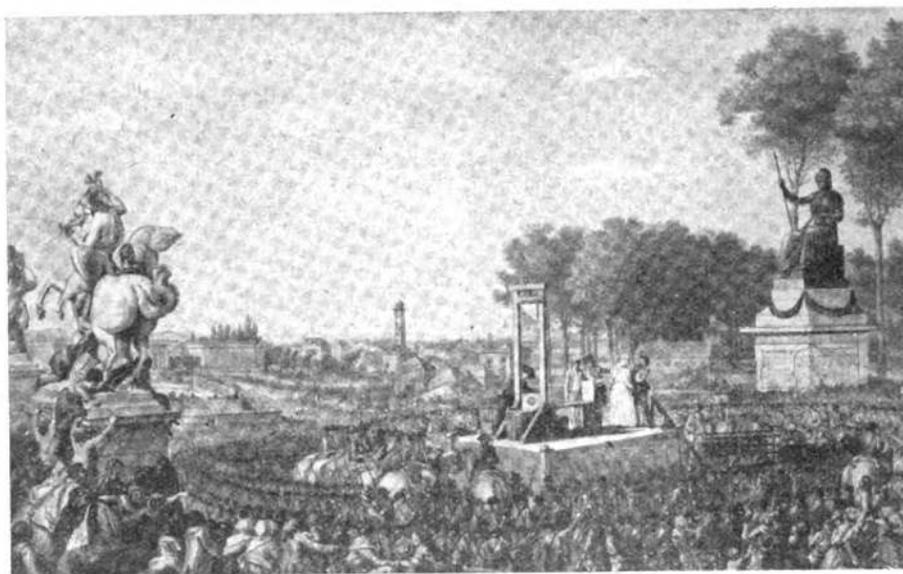
Here also is the hall where the "Twenty-two friends of high public work, twenty-one living and one dead", held a last banquet before passing to their doom. To this "Hall of the Girondins" they passed after being sentenced, singing the Marseillaise all but Valèse who had stabbed himself at hearing the sentence. And here they remained in conversation and discussion until the tumbrils were ready. In spite of the fine spirit which impelled this defiance on the very threshold of eternity, one cannot but suspect a good deal of pose in the last banquet of the Girondins.

Across the river on the Boulevard St. Germain and near the Musée de Cluny is a statue of Danton erected in 1889. The artist has well expressed the furious soul of his subject in that piece of sculpture. Just around the corner is the "Street of the School of Medicine" whence Dr. Manette was carried to his doom in 1757, as related in "the Substance of the Shadow". In this street (at number 44) Marat lived, and here was the scene of the self-immolation of Charlotte Corday. But the exact site cannot now be determined.

These are places which should interest any admirer of Dickens' most vivid historical work. But, if one wishes to study the subject, the place to obtain inspiration is at the Carnavalet

Museum, on the rue de Sévigné just north of the site of La Force prison. Furniture, clothing and *Lettres de Cachet*, souvenirs of the old Bastille, contemporary prints of events familiar to us all from childhood, original posters and placards, instruments of torture, portraits of the leaders of the revolution—this place cannot be overlooked by anyone interested in the period. “On ne connoit ici que la dénomination de citoyen”. The benevolent countenance of old Dr. Guillotin gazes at us from just above the model of his machine—of which he said “It

will whisk off your head and you will never know it.” Take off your hat to the old Doctor who made capital punishment physically painless, one hundred years before hanging began to be impugned as cruel. If you still hesitate read on account of the torture and execution of Damiens in 1757, and then of Charlotte Corday’s execution in 1793. Not only will you have to grant Dr. Guillotin something, but you must admit that for fiendishness the most furious revolutionist could not at all compete with the Ancien Régime.



JOURNÉE DU 16 OCTOBRE 1793.

From an old Print.

Floyd Dell’s “This Mad Ideal” (Knopf) is described by Edwin Bjorkman as the best novel which he has written.

In a review of Robert Nathan’s story of the prophet Johah, (McBride), Ernest Boyd says “He has given us another work which has as unmistakably the quality of fine literature as ‘Autumn’, with the added element of delicious satire.”

Dr. Frank Landon Humphreys of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York, recently awarded *Les Palmes Académiques*, is the author of a book entitled “What We Owe to France”, published at the beginning of the War and translated into French by Professor Rougeyron of the College de Domfront.

The most interesting chapters to a French reader in Professor E. C. Branson’s “Farm Life Abroad” (The University of North Carolina Press) are those entitled “The Farm Women of France”, “Feeding Gay Paree”, and “Seeing Farm Life in France”. In the first of these he says, “Like the German peasant woman the French farm woman is a wife and a mother, a house wife and cattle-keeper, a field worker, draft animal and beast of burden. And in every farm region of France they work as I never saw women work even in central and south Germany.”

United States Census statistics of book publishing, according to a summary in the *Publishers’ Weekly* for May 16, show that 359,391,018 books and pamphlets were published in 1923, of these 8.4 per cent was fiction and 13.8 per cent juvenile.

Certain Books on the Negro

MARY WHITE OVINGTON

THE American Library in Paris has received a number of books, almost all of them of recent publication, relating to the American negro. These books deserve special mention both for their intrinsic value and because their subject is one regarding which there is an awakened, world-wide interest.

There was an extensive literature relating to the Negro in slavery days, some of it authoritative, as Olmsted's "Travels in the Slave States", much of it purely argumentative. After slavery was overthrown there came the children's stories of Uncle Remus told by Joel Chandler Harris, and the pleasant love tales of gracious ladies and faithful black servants depicted by the late Thomas Nelson Page. Reconstruction days brought lurid colors to the pictures, and Thomas Dixon taught, or tried to teach, America to regard the black man as a dangerous brute. Only recently, since the progress of the Negro has been generally accepted, have we had any amount of authoritative writing. For the day has passed when a reputable publisher will print volumes purporting to show that the Negro is capable of manual tasks only. We are dropping propaganda and settling down to an impartial portrayal of facts regarding the life, material and spiritual, of the colored man of America.

Among the volumes in the American Library are two histories, Brawley's "Social History of the American Negro" and Weatherford's "Negro from Africa to America". These are both scholarly pieces of work, with many facts in common, but each with a different slant, as Brawley is a negro and Weatherford a southern white man. There are excellent chapters in Brawley's book on Liberia and on the relations between the American Indians and the Negroes. Mr. Weatherford is an enlightened southerner fully recognizing the injustice that has been accorded the black man in the past, and even going so far to-day as to recommend his participation in state elections in the south—in the north he is not disfranchised, if stringent property and educational qualifications are insisted on. Mr. Brawley also has a volume on "The Negro in Literature and Art".

Along the line of what, for the want of a better word, we call sociology, the Library has a number of studies. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, to which the Library is indebted for this collection, has sent some, though not all, of its reports. These reports concern important legal decisions, notably those regarding segregation, and trial by jury under the domination of the mob spirit. The volume, "Thirty Years of lynching", is also compiled by this society; this is an invaluable document, careful and authoritative. It contains a list of every recorded lynching that took place in the United States between 1887 and 1918, with one hundred cases told in some detail. It has been widely quoted throughout the world.

A race riot occurred in Chicago a few years ago, of which a careful, judicious report was made, as well as the causes that led up to it. This report is in the Library. It is an excellent study of conditions in a northern city.

Another gift is the Negro Year Book, published at Tuskegee. It is what its name implies, a record of the happenings within the current year. It covers not only the United States but the West Indies and Africa. It is full of important material rather loosely thrown together.

Two men within the last four years have brought out studies of the Negro press in America. It is surprising, astonishing, to the white student to find what an unconscionable number of papers the colored people have. Wherever there is a group of Negroes able to buy enough newspapers to pay for the paper and ink with which they are printed, there you find a publisher and editor ready to bring out the weekly "World" or "Journal" or "Gazette". In these sometimes pathetically poor, sheets, sometimes dignified and well set up, you learn how the black man feels. You get his reaction to the burning of a black child at the stake, to the insult to the distinguished black visitor in a New York hotel. "The Voice of the Negro", Robert R. Kerlin calls his volume, a collection of newspaper opinions very well put together. Detweiler names his rather more scholarly, but less interesting, treatise, "The Negro Press in the United States."

Among the more popular writings of the essay type, Moorfield Storey, a lawyer of national reputation, contributes his "Problems of Today", Stephen Graam, "The soul of John Brown", a delightful tramp through colored America, and Herbert J. Seligmann, "The Negro Faces America". This last volume is a good example of how the book with a slant in favor of the Negro, can nevertheless be scrupulously careful as to fact. In the past, too much of American Negro literature was merely a recital of the individual's opinion on racial matters, sometimes favorable, sometimes unfavorable. Today it is first of all a revelation of existing conditions.

No library on the negro would ever dare show its face, or rather its back, to the public without containing Booker T. Washington's "Up from Slavery". This story takes its place in international fame with "Uncle Tom's Cabin". It finds a place in the Paris collection, and by its side is the story of the life of Washington's successor, Robert R. Moton, a much less dramatic biography, but one of genuine interest. "Bursting Bonds", William Picken's story of his life, is a recent addition. It shows a little black boy suffering hardship, working his way through high school, at last entering Yale University where he wins the Phi Beta Kappa key. A story full of humor, delightfully told.

If "Up from Slavery" must be in every Negro collection, such a gathering together of books should include all the works of W. E. Burghardt Du Bois. Unfortunately this is not yet true of the Paris Library, but "Dark Water" is present, a collection of essays on the race question, lucid, forceful, beautiful. And also a new book, "The Gift of Black Folk". Here one will find ample evidence of the high position of the black man in the arts, and the untiring work of the black toiler who did so much to make America a habitable place. "We who know", Du Bois says, "may not forget, but must forever spread the splendid, sordid truth that out of the most lowly, the most persecuted of men, Man made America. And that what Man has here begun with all its want and imperfection, with all its magnificent promise and grotesque failure, will some day blossom in the souls of the Lowly". It is with such word of

invitation that he raises the curtain to show us the "Gift of Black Folk".

And this leads us to the volumes containing the more imaginative work, the contributions especially of the negroes themselves. Of fiction there is little: "The Fire in the Flint", Walter F. White's new novel, depicting a white town of the south, an exciting story that has created a considerable stir this year, and two books by white people, Clement T. Woods "Nigger", a dreary tale of struggle and disappointment, written by a southern white, and my own story "The Shadow". But in poetry there is a chance to gauge the Negro's gifts. Claude McKay's lovely volume, "Harlem Shadows", is in the collection; Max Eastman, in his introduction, speaks of the "simple-heartedness which is carried so high in these poems of Claude McKay. It is carried so high, and made so boldly beautiful, that we cannot withhold a tribute to his will as well as to his music and imagination." This West Indian gives us splendid pictures of New York, and lovely visions of his own warm, heavy-scented land.

But this is not all the poetry. There are two anthologies, one compiled by Kerlin, and illustrated, a popular book that is received with much favor in colored schools. The second compiled by James Weldon Johnson, himself a poet as well as a very able worker for the public good. The preface to this "Book of Negro Verse" is rich in allusion to the part the Negro has played in developing the dance, the music and the song of the United States. The poems that follow show the dawn of a serious, finely conceived Negro poetry. It is the edge of the dawn, the sun is scarce full yet, but one is sure that more is to come.

To supplement these achievements of the present are the studies by Natalie Curtis and Henry E. Krehbeil of Afro-American Tales and Folk Songs.

These books which we have named, and which form the nucleus for a larger library of literature upon the American Negro, are all of them interesting whether the reader is or is not familiar with the color problem. They are recent contributions to a subject that will be discussed doubtless until races disappear,—the subject of the position of an alien race in the land of its adoption.

The Franco-American Entente : Abbé Félix Klein



ABBÉ FÉLIX KLEIN

ABBÉ Félix Klein was born in 1862, and was educated both at St. Sulpice and the Catholic Institute of Paris. In 1885 he entered the priesthood, in 1890 became professor of philosophy at the Diocesan College of Meaux, and in 1893 professor of French literature in the Catholic Institute of Paris. In 1904 and 1907 he toured the United States and Canada, lecturing at the University of Chicago, Chautauqua, the Lowell Institute, Boston, and other centres. During the War he was Chaplain of the American Ambulance at Neuilly, and remained at this post until the Armistice, save for three months in 1918, when he was sent to the United States by the French Government, in company with Mgr. Julien, Bishop of Arras, Mgr. Baudrillart, Rector of the Catholic Institute of Paris, and Father Patrick Flynn.

The writings of Abbé Klein number nearly thirty volumes, seven of which have been awarded prizes by the French Academy. Among them attention may be called to the biographies of Cardinal Lavigerie, and of Mgr. Dupont de

Layes, Bishop of Metz, to "Le Fait Religieux et la Manière de l'observer", and to "Mon filleul au Jardin d'Enfants", the chief study on the subject of schools and kindergarten education to be published in France. The most successful of all his books, "Madeleine Semer, Convertie et Mystique", was awarded a prize by the French Academy last year.

His books dealing with America and American affairs are especially interesting. He has studied with whole-hearted interest the friendly relations between France and America, with a view to furthering them, and particularly in so far as these relations touch upon religious matters.

As a theologian he is known for his tolerance and broad-minded views, as is clearly shown by the thesis of Edouard Benignus, presented in 1905 to the Faculty of Protestant Theology of Montauban. In an able little brochure, "L'Amérique et le Cartel des Gauches", published in 1924, he has set down the chief danger points in Franco-American relations, and the extreme necessity of a cordial understanding between the two countries on all points. Of his three trips to America he has published his impressions in books, all of which have been awarded prizes by the French Academy. Of these books,—"Au Pays de la Vie intense", "L'Amérique de Demain" and "En Amérique à la Fin de la Guerre",—the first two have been published in English by McClurg & Co., Chicago. Americans and America hold the first place, too, in "La Guerre vue d'une Ambulance", and "Les Douleurs qui espèrent", pathetic recollections of the American Ambulance in Neuilly, both translated into English and published by Melrose, London. A lighter side of American character is touched upon in the account of fictitious travels in France, entitled "La Découverte du Vieux Monde par un Etudiant de Chicago", translated as "An American Student in France".

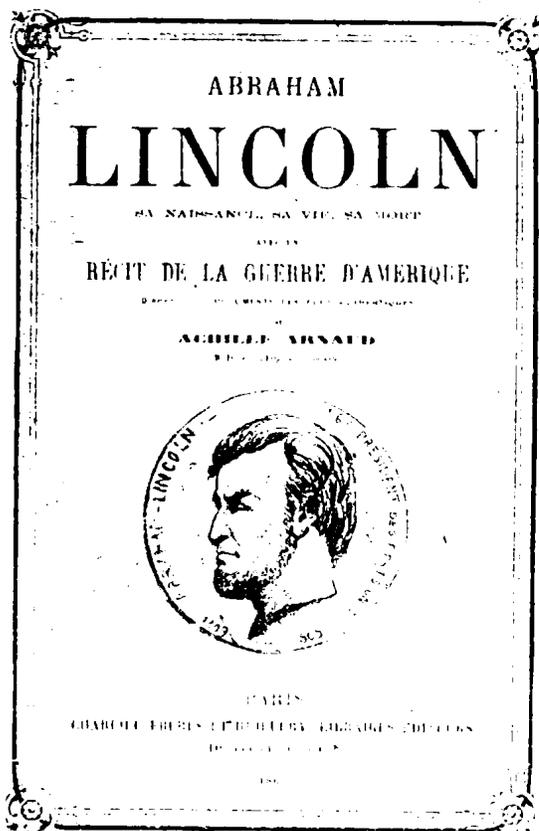
The works of Abbé Klein include translations of Archbishop Ireland's "The Church and Modern Society", and Bishop Spalding's "Opportunity". In addition he has contributed extensively to leading reviews both in America and France.

It may be said that he has devoted the greater part of his life to the furthering of understanding between France and America, and that perhaps as much as any Frenchman living he has succeeded in developing such sympathy and understanding between these two countries.

A Bibliographical Note on Abraham Lincoln

THE Editors are indebted to Mr. René Leclerc of the Lycée de Beauvais for the following note upon French contributions to the Literature of Abraham Lincoln.

On the subject of Abraham Lincoln there is a considerable literature, though as yet no authoritative study by any French scholar of note.



The three outstanding works on the subject are Auguste Cochien's brochure published in 1869 (Pergorce and Cadot), Alphonse Jouault's "Abraham Lincoln" published by Hachette in 1875, and M. Richepin's lecture on Lincoln and the American Soul, published in the *Journal de l'Université des Annales*, March 15th 1919. Of these Jouault's study was the most thorough,

but Richepin's, though rather superficial, was the most brilliant.

The following is a list of books relating to Lincoln which have been published in France, arranged, as far as possible in the chronological order of their publication. A Facsimile of the title page of the first of these, and, perhaps, also the first French book relating to Lincoln, is published herewith. The author was one of the editors of "Monde Illustré" and editor of "L'Opinion Nationale".

- ARNAUD, ACHILLE. *Abraham Lincoln, Sa Naissance, Sa Vie, Sa Mort, avec un récit de la guerre d'Amérique*. Paris. Charlieu. 1865.
- BUNGENER, F. *Lincoln, Sa Vie, Son Œuvre*. 1865.
- LESPERRET, A. *Abraham Lincoln*. 1865.
- PASCAL, CESAR. *Abraham Lincoln, Sa Vie, Son Caractère, Son Administration*. 1865.
- SCIAU-LAVIGNE, J. *Mort d'Abraham Lincoln, Président 2 fois élu des États-Unis*. (Vers).
- FARGES, H. *Abraham Lincoln, Son Caractère Intellectuel Moral et Religieux*. 1867.
- PRAROND, ERNEST. *La Mort du Président Lincoln*. (Concours de 1867 Académie Française). 1867.
- DUNAND, CHARLES. *La Mort du Président Lincoln*. Poème. 1868.
- COCHIN, AUGUSTE. *Abraham Lincoln*. Paris. Degorce-Cadot, 70 bis rue Bonaparte. 56 pp.
- JOUAULT, ALPHONSE. *Abraham Lincoln*. Paris. Hachette. 1875. 256 pp.
- MARAI, AUGUSTE. *Abraham Lincoln : Histoire d'un homme du peuple*. 1880.
- MONOD, E. *Un grand Américain : Abraham Lincoln*. Lausanne. Briedel. 1910.
- PITROIS, YVONNE. *Nobles Vies : Abraham Lincoln le libérateur des Esclaves*. Toulouse. Société d'éditions. 1911.

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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 May shows gifts of books amounting to 270. Among the donors were M. Werlich, Mrs. Shoemaker, and the Misses Betsy and Pricilla Saltenstall. The total number of subscribers registered was 355. This included the following new members : Miss Helen Cameron, Miss Florence Speranza, Mr. Edmond Ehrmann, Mr. Edmund Heisch, Mr. Sidney Bracher.

The book circulation for the month was 10,249, or nine per cent more than during the corresponding month last year.

THE FIRST AMERICAN LIBRARY IN PARIS

The following interesting contribution to the history of the American Library in Paris has just been received from Mr. Charles L. Seeger. It shows how closely the idea of an American Library in Paris has been related to that of international literary exchange even from the beginning.

DEAR DR. JOHNSTON :

Here is a rather interesting bit—not of news—for I ran across it in the "Editor's Easy Chair" of *Harper's Magazine*, Vol. X, No. LIX, April,

1855. It appears that the idea of an American Library in Paris was thought of seventy years ago.

"Even as we write, some one whispers in our ear a story of a great book-exhibition which that inveterate patron of literary exchanges and international hyphen, M. Vattermare, is arranging for the coming world's show in Paris; and all in the interest of America. It appears that these seven or eight years he has had at heart the establishment of an American library in the city of Paris; that so, in the centre of Europe and of Old-World learning, the savants, of whatever name, nation, or degree, might have in their eye an exposé of the intellectual growth and riches of our great Republic.

"The idea was certainly a grand one, and worthier of happier auguries than have thus far attended it. But, at length, one great object—the appropriation of a proper and elegant hall to the object, in the Hotel de Ville—has been gained. An accumulation of books, too, numbering some ten thousand, in every branch of inquiry, are now in M. Vattermare's hands, waiting installment.

"With the American feeling strong in him, M. Vattermare wants to make this show such an one as Americans may look on boastfully, and such as may retrieve our name and credit in the eyes of those overocean people who have

rated us simply as the killers of Mexicans, the growers of great wheat-crops and the blowers-up of huge steamboats !

"For ourselves, when we write a book (if we ever do) we will present it, through M. Vattermare, to the city of Paris ! Then, what a charm on regaling ourselves (if in future years we travel) with the sight of our offspring, calf-bound and gold-lettered, three thousand miles from home, in the very eye of the great capital of the European world !

"We may further hope that such a library may set the French literary chiffoniers right in many points, in regard to which they are now certainly laboring under violent prejudices. We may hope, without exaggeration, to see them recognize the fact that Daniel Webster did *not* write a Universal Dictionary,—that

Alabama planters do *not* feed terrapins with young negroes,—that 'Capting Mayne Read' is *not* the daughter of Fenimore Cooper,—that the 'Reverend Beecher' is *not* Under-Secretary of State,—and that 'Miss Queechy' is positively *not* the sister-in-law of Miss Wetherel, or the 'Lamplighter' a shrewd hit at the 'foolish virgins'!"

I think this is delightful. At that time the "Easy Chair" was written by George William Curtis, so he was undoubtedly the author of the above. It recalls the sensitiveness of that period to European criticism, which we have bravely recovered from.

Yours sincerely

Charles L. Seeger

Miss Amy Lowell in her biography of John Keats, the *Times* says, has made Keats the man, at least in his earlier years, real to the reader as no biographer has done before. "She has failed in her treatment of Keats the poet".

In his recently published autobiography Sir Arthur Conan Doyle says of his two historical novels "The White Company", written in 1889, and "Sir Nigel", written fourteen years later, "I consider the latter the better book, but I have no hesitation in saying that the two of them taken together did thoroughly achieve my purpose. and that as a single piece of work they form the most complete, satisfying and ambitious thing that I have ever done".

The popularity of Mrs. Anna Bowman Dodd's "In and Out of Three Normandy Inns" has led to the publication of a new edition of the book. It is printed at the St. Catherine Press, Bruges. When the book was first published in 1892, as the author says, Normandy was an unknown country to most Americans. Now it is the home of hundreds, and is visited by thousands, all of whom will welcome these interesting reminiscences of travel from Honfleur to Mont Saint Michel.

Mrs. Wharton's "The Mother's Recompense" (Appleton), is described by the *New York Times Book Review* as her best best novel since "The House of Mirth".



MRS. ANNA BOWMAN DODD

Author of "In and Out of Three Normandy Inns", "Up 'the Seine", "On the Knees of the Gods", etc.

Book Reviews

THOSE EUROPEANS, by Sisley Huddleston. New York and London. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1924. 297 pages.

Mr. Huddleston like other successful Paris newspaper correspondents is not only well acquainted with the more prominent men in Europe, but knows how to tell about them in an interesting manner, if not always in a judicial one. In his essay on MacDonald, for example, he says that Asquith had made a mess of the War; Lloyd George had made a mess of the peace; Bonar Law and Baldwin and Curzon had made between them the most frightful mess of foreign policy; and that the elevation of MacDonald to the Premiership meant not only the salvation of England but of Europe. Again in his essay on General Sikorski he says of Poland, "It is really the key state of Europe. If true peace can be made at Warsaw, Europe is safe". This same quality is shown also in his essay on Dr. Dorten, where he says "The battleground of the next War will not be France, will not be Germany proper, but will be the Rhineland".

Mr. Huddleston admires not only Mr. MacDonald but also Sir William Goode, "The Saviour of Nations", and Sir John Bradbury of the Reparation Commission, whom he describes as the dominating figure in the finances of Europe for the past few years. But he admires no one more than he does Clemenceau, whom he calls the greatest man that Europe has produced in our generation. Other chapters on French statesmen are devoted to Millerand, Poincaré, Caillaux, "the Jonah of France", and Lyautey, the maker of modern Morocco.

Still other chapters describe briefly the characteristics of Masaryk, "his country's creator", d'Annunzio, Primo de Rivera, and Lord Cecil.

GERMANY IN TRANSITION, by Herbert Kraus. Chicago. University of Chicago Press. 1924. 236 pages.

Few books produced since the war have traced events in Germany more comprehensively and impartially than this series of essays delivered by the writer, a German professor at the University of Chicago. Lectures are as a rule highly ephemeral when placed in print, a fact to which the publication of a certain American institution on international relations bear striking witness. In treating the reparation question, the League of Nations and Germany, and general German political conditions and tendencies, as is done in this book, however, Professor Kraus has peered beneath the surface evidence and given a valuable survey of the real conditions in Germany.

THE STABILIZATION OF EUROPE, by Charles de Visscher. Chicago. University of Chicago Press. 1924. 190 pages.

This book comprises a series of lectures delivered at the University of Chicago in the fall of 1924. The lectures deal with the problem of nationalities, the protection of minorities, the international control of communications, the problem of security, and the League of Nations. The subject matter is decidedly informing when presented personally before a group of college students. There is, however, no reason for publishing a book of this nature, for every matter treated can be found better discussed by authors who have prepared their work primarily for publication, not for lectures before college students.

THE GENEVA PROTOCOL FOR THE PACIFIC SETTLEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES, by P. J. Noel. London. P. S. King & Son. 228 pages.

This book is an able analysis not of the preliminary history, but of the contents of the Geneva Protocol as produced by the Fifth Assembly of the League of Nations. The significance of the different provisions of the Protocol are carefully explained. As a whole the book is not as comprehensive, or legally and historically as precise as a work on the same subject that has just appeared from the pen of an American, David Hunter Miller. It is unfortunate that either book should have appeared just at the moment when the present "Geneva Protocol" was buried and lies beyond hope of resurrection.

COMMERCIAL YEAR BOOK OF THE SOVIET UNION 1925. Compiled and edited by Louis Segal and A. A. Santalov. London. Allen & Unwin. 1925. 422 pages.

This is a valuable, and in fact the only handy compendium of information on Soviet Russia that exists in the English language. Principal emphasis is placed upon industry, finance, agriculture, and political organization. While a mass of valuable information is presented it must be remembered that the Year Book presents all facts with the proper U. S. S. R. interpretation. A few readers unaware of this may consider that they know real Russian conditions after reading about the present governmental organization or about foreign concessions. Capitalists seeking Russian investments, however, will be likely to go beyond the facts given in this publication before committing themselves to Russian enterprises.

AROUND THE WORLD IN NEW YORK, by Konrad Bercovici. New York. The Century Co. 1924. 416 pages.

Nothing but praise can be given to Mr. Bercovici for this book. His knowledge of the many races and nationalities in New York and his understanding of their various ways of living are remarkable. The first chapter offers a short history of the metropolis from its earliest days, and I wonder how many native New Yorkers would know as much of their own city?

The book, truly, is like a trip around the world; and whichever part of the globe appeals to you the most, will be a matter of taste. Yet, whether it be China, Italy, Palestine, Scandinavia, or one of the Balkan states, it is equally well told. Chapter X, however, devoted to Africa is possibly the best of all. It gives us a new angle on the negro question and a great deal to ponder upon.

The volume is charmingly illustrated with pen and ink sketches by Norman Borchardt.

Marguerite Holm

PARIS OF TODAY, by Ralph Nevill. London. Herbert Jenkins. 1924. 311 pages.

One does not find all the activities of Paris recorded in Mr. Nevill's book,—mainly its merry life only. May I say that the writer is a specialist of such studies? He is the author of "Mayfair and Montmartre", an alluring title, as are also the subheads in the present volume: The Demi-Monde, Montmartre, Café-Concerts and Balls, etc. Some of the illustrations—for instance, a naked little model as a symbol of *Le Quartier Latin*, etc., might even lead the reader to believe the book is more frivolous than it is. However, Mr. Nevill deals with his subject in a very serious and comprehensive way. He warns the public against the impressions of the tourists who go to Paris "for the purpose of a holiday, and do not trouble about the more serious side of Parisian life which occupies the time of a vast majority of the inhabitants".

That is just the sort of preface that pleases the French people. They want foreigners to realize that the *Grands Boulevards* and *La Butte* are not typical of all Paris.

Many anecdotes and many traits reveal the fact that Mr. Nevill began his observations long before the War. But his views, especially his comparisons between the Parisians and their English sisters, are of the same vivid interest today as yesterday.

Pierre Denoyer

THROUGH CENTRAL FRANCE, by Maude Speed. London. Longmans Green. 1924. 245 pages.

Mrs. Speed has written a pleasant book and chosen some of the most interesting towns and

cities for her tour. The descriptions of the scenery are good, but a map would have helped a great deal in following her wanderings.

Some of the statements made in this volume seem a trifle naive, such as "there is no such thing in either England or France nowadays as injustice or corruption", and again, "here in England husbands and wives are *always* lovers right through life to the end of the chapter—as we all know very well indeed". The author's information regarding French factory workers seems, also, to have come from rather obscure sources.

In a second edition of the work, Mrs. Speed will have to revise certain historical statements. Chenonceaux was not, as she says, built and originally intended for Diane de Poitiers. The castle was erected on the site of an old mill by one Thomas Bohier in 1515, and, as his son had no funds to complete it, François I bought it in 1535. The royal builder carried on the work, and it was not until his death that the castle was given to Diane by Henri II.

Mrs. Speed is also hard on Mary Stuart in crediting her with a wanton cruelty that she had not. For she is accused of having enjoyed the dreadful execution that followed the discovery of a Huguenot plot to carry off the king. All histories that I am acquainted with say that Catherine de' Medici forced Mary to be present, but, as she—Mary—repeatedly fainted from horror, her husband, the king, insisted upon her being spared further attendance.

The book is delightfully illustrated, partly in colour, by the author herself.

Marguerite Holm

TWICE THIRTY, by Edward W. Bok, L. D., L. H. D. New York. Charles Scribner's Sons. 1925. 539 pages.

For half of the "twice thirty" Dr. Bok was editor of a well-known magazine in Philadelphia, *The Ladies' Home Journal*. Since resigning some half a dozen years ago, he has devoted himself to the writing of increasingly popular books, to recreation, and to service. It is particularly in the last field that Dr. Bok wins the heart of everyone. His generosity and, better still, his will to serve his fellow-man in wider fields than from the editorial chair, and his undoubted success in these endeavours, are all factors that in themselves go far towards the making of an absorbingly attractive book of reminiscence, and, yet, they are not all.

There is something in the memoirs of Dr. Bok which somehow is different from the usual tone of recollections, with which the book-mart of to-day is swamped; something which makes one think that once in a while a knight-errant does go forth to social battle, after a good many years of useful background and effort, in order to apply

successfully his experience and shrewdness—of which latter commodity Dr. Bok possesses uncharted oceans of astronomic dimensions—to broader fields where service, backed by capital, is needed.

Edward W. Bok, we know, is different from Edward Bok. That was already explained in one of the author's former volumes. But it is a good thing, not only for Philadelphia and the United States, but for Holland and the world at large as well, that one day Edward Bok fell out of his editorial chair with a resounding thud, and thereupon rose, shook himself, smiled engagingly, and stepped forth as Edward W. Bok, whose obvious flair for public service assures him a niche in more than one exclusive Hall of Fame.

Frits Holm

WAR LETTERS OF GEORGE CLARK MOSELEY. Printed for Private Distribution. Highland Park, Illinois. 1923. 239 pages.

This volume is a valuable addition to the collection of writings of the American Volunteers in the French Army during the World War. The letters cover the period from April 1917, when Moseley left Yale to fight the Germans, until his return to America after the Armistice, and give an intimate picture of the life of the writer and his comrades, in the French aviation schools, training as a pilot with the Lafayette Flying Corps, and at the front with French, British and American fighting aerial squadrons.

The first letters describe Moseley's enlistment in the Aviation Section of the New York Naval Militia: finding chances of speedy entry into action with that outfit very doubtful, he secured his discharge, sailed for France, and joined the Lafayette Flying Corps on July 10, 1917.

"At last we are in a real aviation school", Moseley wrote from Camp d'Avord on July 30, 1917. "There are at least 900 to 1,000 aeroplanes here of all descriptions. In the morning and evening the sky is covered with them. There are so many planes that after the first few days you get tired of looking up at them and after your neck gets over being stiff you never bother to raise your head.

"There are a great many kinds of people gathered together here at camp. There are Russians, Portuguese, Japanese, Canadians, French, Arabs, Annamites and Americans. The Arabs and Annamites do all the menial work about camp. There are about 110 Americans here learning to fly. Most of them are fine fellows, they run all the way from millionaires to fellows who have hardly a centime."

After finishing his training, Moseley was sent to the front with the French Escadrille Spad 150, where he remained until he transferred to the

United States Naval Aviation in February 1918. Here he met a heavy blow, in the death of his boyhood chum and dearest friend, Dumaresq Spencer, who had left Yale and come to France with him, and who was killed in aeroplane January 22, 1918. Moseley saw his friend's machine fall, and was one of the first to reach it.

After changing to the American Naval Aviation, Moseley flew over the North Sea sector from March until June, 1918; then was attached to a day-bombing squadron of the Royal Flying Corps for three months, and finally ended the war again flying with a French squadron. All this varied experience is delightfully and vividly described in well-written letters, in which are often quoted stories of daring action told by British and French pilots. Some of Moseley's most exciting experiences were had while bombing the German works around Zeebrugge and Bruges, where his machine was often damaged by enemy anti-aircraft batteries.

The book is attractively illustrated, and contains as an Appendix the "Honor Roll of the Lafayette Dead", an article about the Memorial Garden of the Lafayette Escadrille, and a Chronology of "What the United States did in the War and when she did it."

Paul Rockwell

BASIC PRINCIPLES IN PIANOFORTE PLAYING, by Joseph Lhevinne. Philadelphia. Theo. Presser Co. 1924 48 pages.

This is a series of "personal conferences" with Mr. Lhevinne upon the art of pianoforte playing, first published in *The Etude*.

Mr. Lhevinne may be read with profit by all persons who ever listen to piano playing; he has something for all of them, amateur or professional, teacher or student. There are numberless pianists in and out of the public eye, who have no suspicion of the value of "silence", and if you happen to be acquainted with any such keyboard steeple-chasers, by all means encourage them to read Mr. Lhevinne's remarks on "Indifference to Rests". "Very often the effect of the rest is even greater than that of the notes. It serves to attract and to prepare the mind", and wasn't it Mozart who used to say that "Silence is the greatest effect in music"?

The most valuable pearl in *Basic Principles* no doubt is the author's insistence upon the mental basis of all the component parts of piano playing. The mental concept is the secret of all of them—rhythm, good touch, a beautiful ringing, singing tone, technic, delicacy, power, accuracy, mood, sentiment, emotion, and so on.

"The player can actually think moods and conditions into his arm and fingers. His mental attitude means a great deal in the quality

of his playing. Anyone who heard Rubenstein play will realize how the emotions can be conveyed to the keyboard in an altogether marvelous manner. No audience is immune to this appeal. The non-musical auditors, in fact, come more for this sensation than for any understanding of pure music. They know instantly when it is present and go away gratified and rewarded. They do not understand the musical niceties; but they do comprehend the communication of human sensations and emotions when sincerely portrayed by the pianist who feels he has something more to do in his art than merely to play the notes."

Irving Scherke.

THE GREATEST EXPERIMENT IN HISTORY, by Sir Edward Grigg. New Haven. Yale University Press. 1924. 216 pages.

These lectures delivered at the Institute of Politics at Williams College by Mr. Lloyd George's ex-secretary discuss in an interesting manner British imperial policy, especially in relation to the questions of the Near East, Egypt, and India, together with the Treaty of Versailles and the German Reparations problem.

The British Empire, he takes care to explain, is not an Empire in the old sense of the term, but a true Commonwealth of Nations in a new and more significant form than any to which the splendid name of Commonwealth has yet been applied. It is a new power, a new idea, a new experiment in history, the success or failure of which must profoundly influence the future of human society.

The two lectures in which British and American imperialism are compared, and in which their resemblances are pointed out, are of special interest. He notes for example, that the population of the United States is about the same as the total British population of the British Empire; also that about sixty per cent of the population of the United States is of British origin.

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON MAN AND WRITER : A CRITICAL BIOGRAPHY, by J. A. Stuart. London. Sampson Low, Marston & Co. 1924. 2 volumes.

The most interesting feature of this biography to most Parisians will be the author's account of Stevenson's life in France. This began in his twelfth year with a visit to Mentone with his mother, a visit repeated in 1873 upon the advice of his physician, as described in his "Ordered South". In 1875 he joined his cousin Bob Stevenson at Fontainebleau, and made an excursion up the valley of the Loing which ended in his being jailed at Châtillon-sur-Loing. The record of this visit is given in his essays, entitled "Fontainebleau" and "Forest Notes".

The following year he met Mrs. Osbourne at Grez, and after the canoe trip described in "An Inland Voyage" spent the remainder of the summer near her, with occasional excursions on the Loing to Nemours and elsewhere. In 1877 he planned a second canoeing trip with Sir Walter Simpson, to start at Moret, at the junction of the Seine and the Loing, and be continued by the Loing, the Loire, and the Rhone to the Mediterranean. Nothing came of this, but after Mrs. Osbourne's departure for California in the autumn of 1878 he had that second adventure in France, which he described in his "Travels with a Donkey".

In these earlier visits Stevenson spent most of his time either in Paris, or in Barbizon, in "that excellent artists' barrack", Siron's Inn. But after his return from the United States with Mrs. Stevenson in 1882 he sought the sunnier skies of the Riviera, first at St-Marcel in the environs of Marseilles, and afterward at La Solitude, Hyères. Years afterwards he said that he had been happy just once in his life, and that was at Hyères.

BARREN GROUND, by Ellen Glasgow. Garden City. Doubleday. Page & Co. 1925. 511 pages.

In spirit Ellen Glasgow and Thomas Hardy are very near together. They share the same belief in the inevitability of fate; they describe the same hopeless inner combat; the pall of futility hangs like a dark and ominous cloud over everything they write.

"Barren Ground" is the story of life in a small country settlement in Virginia. Life and tragedy are synonymous and interchangeable terms with Miss Glasgow, and from the title page, with its bleak woodcut, to the last paragraph, it is all stark and sombre. Even the first chapters, with their surface radiance, are overshadowed with the prescience of calamity.

Ellen Glasgow is an artist; she is perhaps the most significant of the Southern writers of today. She knows the negro, with his childlike, irrational temperament, and the "poor white", that thriftless, sad and aimless mortal, knows and understands them, and has the great gift to write about them with comprehension and feeling. M. R.

MRS. MEYNELL AND HER LITERARY GENERATION, by Anne Kimball Tuell: N. Y. E. P. Dutton. 1925. 286 pages.

Here is a critical biography whose style and contents are most happily fitted to the subject in hand. One feels that the writer is steeped in the atmosphere of Mrs. Meynell's works, in the same way as her life was surely influenced and made richer by Mrs. Meynell's personality and friendship. Yet it is an estimate at once sympathetic and just.

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The book has a sureness and delicacy of touch, a happiness of phrase and illustration which seem to owe something to Mrs. Meynell's own apt and delicate turn of expression. The actual facts of Mrs. Meynell's life are touched upon but lightly, yet nevertheless we retain in our minds the impression of the finely-poised, determined spirit of the woman who, "with an avalanche of children (there were eight of them in all) pouring down the staircase", could yet concentrate on those exquisite cameos of prose and poetry which she has left us.

There is besides, a useful bibliography of Alice Meynell's works at the end of the volume.

J.A.L. Shercliff.

THE ORIGINS OF THE WAR OF 1870, NEW DOCUMENTS FROM THE GERMAN ARCHIVES, by Robert Howard Lord. Harvard Historical Studies. Cambridge. Harvard University Press. 1924. 282 pages.

Professor Lord speaks of the "bursting of the Spanish bomb" (a diplomatic one) at Paris on July 3rd—the first of the fateful twelve days preceding the initial declaration of war in the French Chamber on July 15th. His own statement, however, that "it is difficult not to accuse both governments in 1870 of criminally playing with fire" will certainly explode a mild bomb in the minds of many people. One is apt, in these matters, to allow one's sympathy and one's imagination to be the guide, rather than the dull researches of the patient historian. "Bismarck", says Professor Lord, "deliberately embarked on a project which did involve placing Napoleon in a position where he might either have to fight or to accept another grave defeat that might involve the downfall of his tottering dynasty. France then tried to turn the tables by forcing Prussia to confront the alternative of war or a humiliating backdown—and with a statesman like Bismarck the choice was quickly made." The agony of these twelve days is known, on the French side, by the publications of Grammont, Ollivier, Benedetti, and La Gorco. Professor Lord has now had access to the seven volumes of diplomatic documents in the German archives, hitherto unpublished. No doubt much remains to be known, the official publication of the French Government, in twelve volumes to October 15, 1866, being only half finished, but Professor Lord's contributions put all students of modern history deeply in his debt.

Investigation often proves that the responsibility for wars, in the dim and distant past, was divided—divided generally on a fifty-fifty basis; but at the moment of their occurrence, there was no doubt in the minds of each participant that

he alone represented justice, and truth, and honour. After all, the men who make the speeches about it, or write the stirring editorials, or actually send the ultimatum that decides,—these men merely sit round a table

And if, at the sound of a silver bell,
They plunged three nations into hell—
The blood of peasants is not red
A hundred miles away.

A.A.W.

THE HEART OF THE MIDDLE EAST, by Richard Coke. London. Thornton Butterworth. 1925. 320 pages.

In this book is presented the best general survey of Mesopotamian history yet produced by any writer. The narrative begins with the earliest recorded history of Mesopotamia; it ends with "the dawn of a to-morrow". Chief emphasis is placed on developments concomitant with and since the World War. Besides the well written historical exposé, the reader will find of interest a description of social life, economic conditions, and a skilful delineation of the Oriental character.

THIS MAD IDEAL, by Floyd Dell. New York. Alfred A. Knopf. 1925. 246 pages.

This novel continues the modern spirit of revolt—revolt against convention, against respectability, against material comfort, against others, against self, against love, against everything—just revolt.

The revolting routine is described at the end of Book Two. Home with the mortgage paid off, healthy, sensible children, no harassing economic pressure, good food and plenty of it, pleasant neighbours, interesting books, a good pipe—well, it may all seem monotonous and meaningless, but was Robert Burns, another revolutionary, wrong when he defined, in simple terms "the true pathos and sublime, of human life"?

If the ideal involves burdensome mortgages, ailing infants, a slovenly, slatternly table, ultra-modern poetry and art, while we hunt a will o' the wisp, it is indeed mad. Life is not so complicated as Floyd Dell and others of his kidney would make us believe—at least it need not be, and the simpler we keep it the better for all. Judith was a young fool not to marry Roy, or to live with him, as she suggests. She broke his heart, and in the sequel we shall probably find she broke her own. The madness of her ideal lay simply in her own confusion of mind, but her short journey is full of arresting incident. Floyd Dell, with Sinclair Lewis, is interpreting America. What matter if, as Hugh Walpole hints, its ugly aspects are emphasized?

A.A.W.

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COMPLIMENTS OF "EX LIBRIS"

CULTURE AND DEMOCRACY IN THE UNITED STATES :
STUDIES IN THE GROUP PSYCHOLOGY OF THE
AMERICAN PEOPLES, by Horace M. Kallen.
New York. Boni & Liveright. 1924. 347
pages.

The standpoint of these essays, first published in *The Nation*, *The New Republic*, and other magazines, is described by the author as that of culture Pluralism. By this he means that while democracy is an essential prerequisite to culture, culture can be and sometimes is the fine flowering or democracy. He does not make either point perfectly clear, nor does he present any program by which these two ideals may be realized; but his criticism of cultural conditions in the United States, is, perhaps, more interesting on that account, and particularly his criticism of other critics like the authors of "Civilisation in the United States: an Inquiry by Thirty Americans". Of them he says, "They know better, and on occasion they think and say better. But their feelings are too much engaged. Disaffected, lacking poise of intellect and serenity of spirit, they figure in this book, in effects, as emotional reactionaries. Perhaps this is as it should be. For strong emotion is purged by utterance, and it would be no more than fair to regard this plaint of the disaffected as, on the whole, nothing more than a purge. Now that they have come clean—if they have come clean—perhaps they will consult William James's 'On a Certain Blindness in Human Beings', and try again".

Other essays are entitled "America and the Life of Reason", a criticism of Santayana's "Character and Opinion in the United States", "Humanism and the Industrial Age", "Americanisation and the Cultural Future", and "Democracy and the Melting Pot".

It is not, however, in critical literature, but in poetry that he finds the best expression of the national spirit, and among poets it is Vachel Lindsay who expresses it most perfectly.

WOODROW WILSON, by William Allen White.
Boston. Houghton Mifflin & Co. 1924.
487 pages.

The following lines of the Introduction fairly epitomize the author's judgment: "He worked hard against terrible odds, many of which were in his own heart. He achieved much, he left much undone. But his sincerity, his honesty, his consecration to the work before him were never questioned."

Theorem Mr. White discourses intimately, tenderly, most lengthily upon his hero's Scotch-Irish heritage, and upon his Calvinistic cast of mind, hence the conflicting impulsiveness and dourness of his composition: dourness and obstinacy pre-

vailing. After dwelling upon Wilson's childhood days and surroundings, his early marriage, we arrive at the formative period, his professorial days, his career as head of Princeton, the New Jersey Governorship, all of which led to the Presidency; then follow his Mexican Policy, and by slow stages the World War. The biographer points out that throughout all, Mr. Wilson's convictions and his mental attitude remained unchanged. Always was he averse to war, indeed it took three years of Germany's contemptuous ignoring of his Notes, which she only acknowledged by fresh acts of ruthlessness, to compel him to abandon his attitude of aloofness. When the declaration of war finally came, the whole country moved with him. "However President Wilson may have wandered in following one expedient or another to avoid conflict, there can be no question that his foreign policy in connection with the European war, as with Mexico, was based upon an instinctive conviction of the right of right as against the right of might... He was in his foreign policy showing forth in works the Calvinism that impregnated his soul. Perhaps it may be best to define the two courses that parted there in September 1914, before that Belgian Commission, by impersonating the alternatives. One was the Roosevelt way, the other Wilson's. Doubtless the Rooseveltian way would have been to issue the protest, to show force, to make it appear definitely that American public opinion was outraged and that the only satisfaction which that outrage could feel would be the whack of the big stick. There are no 'ifs' in history, but one has the right to guess that this swish of the big stick in the autumn air that year in the beginning of the war would have brought Germany to a realization of her isolation in the world, and its danger. It might have been wise to walk down that branch of the crossroads. But Wilson could not walk here. His faith in the ultimate triumph of reason as the will of God, rather than of force in displaying that will, was the lever which moved the greatest events in the world in those early days of the war."

Then follow the episodes of Mr. Wilson's triumphant European progress, his ensuing downfall, his illness and death.

It must be borne in mind, however, that this work purports to be a study of character and all that makes for it, rather than an historical manual.

George G. Fleuret

EDITH WHARTON, by Robert Morss Lovett. New York. McBride & Co. 1925. 87 pages.

This is such a slender little volume that it can hardly be called more than a synopsis; the profound deductions of a critic should not be expected. Bibliographical notes are at a minimum, but Mr. Lovett has clearly outlined the various types of

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Mrs. Wharton's productions. He shows her as a cultivated artist in "Decoration of Houses", as an historical essayist in the "Valley of Decision", a war writer in "The Marne" and "A Son at the Front", and, chiefly, a novelist in famous works such as "The House of Mirth" and "Ethan Frome".

Mrs. Wharton, the author tells us, is first of all a novelist of civilization. She has a perpetual nostalgia for old lands. The morality of her characters is pictured chiefly in indoor frames, and the scene of the skirmish is the tea table or the dancing floor. She has no outlook upon the great mass of humanity. America west of the Hudson she does not know. This is all very true, and concisely and admirably discussed by Mr. Lovett.

Pierre Denoyer

TRUBADOUR : AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY, by Alfred Kreymborg. New York. Boni & Liveright. 1925. 415 pages.

There are many histories of us then and now and they are written now and they are often written now. Many histories of us are often written now. Sometimes in the histories of us each one of us is different from the others of us and the one writing the history of himself and us is different in his history of himself and us from us. In this history of us of himself and us Kreymborg makes us makes himself and each one of us different enough so that some one can know us. That is very nice for him and for us and very pleasant for him and for us and very satisfying to him and to us. We are all pleased with him and with us and so we say that he has made a very good des-

"Of all the historical romances that have seen the light in many days" says a reviewer in the *International Book Review*, "it is doubtful if there is any that can exceed William Stearns Davis's 'The Beauty of the Purple' in the magnificence of its setting, the power of its emotional appeal, the interest of its narrative, the essentially romantic nature of its story".

M. Martellière's "Pierre de Ronsard, Gentilhomme Vendômois", (Paris, Lemerre), is described by the *Times* as a work of great interest and value. "M. Martellière", it says, "has raked, with criticism certain traditions regarding Ronsard and has brought forward important new facts as the result of his patient researches."

The first instalment of Ambassador Page's private letters to President Wilson appears in *World's Work* for June. These letters have not hitherto been published.

cription of himself and of each one of us. A history of himself and of each one of us and connections of more than one of us is a very sensitive thing a sensitive history of himself and of each one of us and of some who are ones and one. Always this is a good thing.

Gertrude Stein

FRENCH STUDIES OF PHYSICAL CULTURE

The teaching of one of the best known French writers upon physical culture, Lieut. G. Hébert, has recently been described in a monograph entitled "La Méthode Naturelle du Lieut. de Vaisseau Hébert", published by Paul Vuibert, and Lieut. Hébert himself has written a general treatise on the subject in "L'Education Physique ou l'Entraînement Complet par la Méthode Naturelle". In addition to this he has written several books on the application of his theories. Among these may be mentioned "Leçon-Type d'Entraînement Complet et Utilitaire", "Guide Pratique d'Education Physique", and "Guide Abrégé du Moniteur", the latter suitable for use in schools, and "Le Sport contre l'Education Physique", in which he insists on the all-round development of the body as against development in one direction only. The "Code de la Force" and "La Culture Virile et les Devoirs Physiques de l'Officier Combattant" are of special interest to the soldier, and the "Leçon-Type de Natation" to the swimmer, while all women interested in beauty culture should read "L'Education Physique Féminin: Muscle et Beauté Plastique".

Professor Jean Catel of the University of Montpellier is in the United States collecting material for a book on Walt Whitman.

In recording the death of J.E.C. Bodley, author of "France", *The Times* for May 29th says:—"Probably no Englishman ever possessed a more intimate knowledge of the whole life of France, social and political, her manners and customs, her modes of thought, the treasures of her literature, and the long drama of her history."

In a review of Miss Lowell's "John Keats" (Jonathan Cape) in the *Spectator* for June 6th, J.St. Loe Strachey says:—"That the book is a model biography I do not contend. It is not a perfect biography, or a perfect critical estimate of Keats. Rather it is a Keats encyclopedia, which contains almost everything that is known or knowable about Keats, arranged in chronological order, and with many shrewd and enlightening comments."

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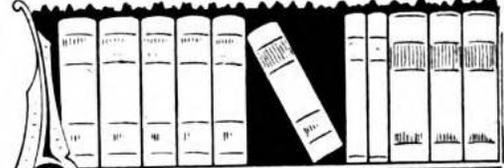
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Five stories grave and gay by the author of "Homicide par Imprudence", told with sincerity, and in a simple style which has more than a suggestion of irony.

GALZY, JEANNE. *La Grand' Rue.* Paris. F. Rieder. 1925. 224 pages. Frs. 7.50.

This novel, laid in Montpellier in the eighteenth century, is one in which the figures move and pass like shadows in an atmosphere of poetry and passion; by the author of "Les Allongés".

GAULENE, GUILLAUME. *Du Sang sur la Croix.* Paris. F. Rieder. 1925. 240 pages. Fr. 7.50.

A novel which centres round the fighting ships of the end of the XVII century.

GIRARD, GEORGES. *Les Vainqueurs.* Paris. Nouvelle Revue Française. 1925. 224 pages. Frs. 7.50 (Prix de la Renaissance 1925).

The story of a battalion of infantry; one of the best French novels of the War.

JAMMES, FRANCIS. *Les Robinsons basques.* Paris. Mercure de France. 1925. 212 pages. Frs. 7.50.

An interesting and even poetical romance of the land and customs of the Basque country, by the well-known poet and novelist.

PEROCHON, ERNEST. *Huit Gouttes d'Opium.* Paris. Plon. 1925. 260 pages. Frs. 7.50.

Eight Tales in which the author of "Nène" once more writes with his biting irony of the banal outer life of man with its undercurrent of ambitions and desires and tragedies.

SANDRE, THIERRY. *Mousseline.* Amiens. E. Malfère. 1924. 256 pages. Frs. 7.50.

The author of "La Chèvrefeuille" here describes

the tragic and moving story of a betrayed love; the scene is laid in Paris.

YAMATA, KIKOU. *Nisako.* Paris. Stock. 1925. 184 pages. Frs. 7.50.

An exquisite picture of Japanese life by a Japanese.

NON-FICTION.

BROUSSON, JEAN-JACQUES. *Anatole France en Pantouffles.* Paris. Crès. 1924. 378 pages. Frs. 7.50.

This book by the secretary of Anatole France is perhaps the most arresting and vivid work which we have upon the Master's life and thought.

DROIN, ALFRED. *Du Sang sur la Mosquée.* Paris. Fasquelle. 1925. 192 pages. Frs. 7.50.

This volume is a reprint of the poems published in 1912 with the addition of some hitherto unpublished verses, all of which deal with the war in Morocco.

FAY, BERNARD. *Panorama de la Littérature Contemporaine.* Paris. Kra. 1925. 215 pages. Frs. 7.50.

A comprehensive and brilliant survey of French poetry and prose from 1880 to 1924, containing at the end of each chapter a useful bibliography of the subjects treated.

GEMIER, FIRMIN. *Le Théâtre.* Paris. Grasset. 1925. 286 pages. Frs. 15.

Interesting sketches of theatrical subjects by the director of the Théâtre de l'Odéon; he is also one of the most famous French actors of the day.

MAURRAS, CHARLES. *La Musique Intérieure.* Paris. Grasset. 1925. 336 pages. Frs. 9.

A selection of the best of M. Maurras' poems, together with a resume of his opinions on the art of poetry. The author is one of the leaders of the Royalist party in France.

In speaking of Eden Philpott's "A Voice from the Dark" (Macmillan), the *New York Times Book Review* says "John Ringrose is one of the most human and likeable detectives to be found in fiction".

It is reported that John Keats' Hampstead home is being equipped as a memorial museum of Keats and his circle, and that the great Dilke collection of Keats' relics, at present at the Hampstead Public Library, is to be transferred to it.

A new literary society, "L'Académie de Province", has recently been formed, to which only those who are neither Parisians nor domiciled in Paris, nor members of either the Académie Française or Goncourt, are eligible. As a result of an unofficial questionnaire, the following ten authors received the greatest number of votes as members of the new Academy: Philéas Lebesgue, Francis Jammes, Louis Mercier, François Fabié, Gabriel Sarrazin, J. de Pasquidoux, A. Le Braz, L. Le Cardonnel, Romain Rolland, Ch.-Th. Féret.

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- American Mercury*, June : The Lower Learning, Isaac Goldberf. Politics in the Revolution, Clarence Walworth Alvord. The Czeck Language in America, J. B. Dudek.
- American Political Science Review*, May : British Policy and the Balance of Power, Sir Esme Howard. The Modernization of International Law, George Grafton Wilson.
- The Atlantic Monthly*, May : French Naval Policy and its Reactions, Hector C. Bywater.
— — June : The Real Divisions in Modern Christianity, Kirsopp Lake. Germany and Modern Civilization, Reinhold Niebuhr. Cail-
laux, Major R. H. Thomas.
- Century*, June : Peter Pans of Communism, Benjamin Stolberg.
- The Dial*, June : John Keats, Conrad Aiken. Paul Valéry, Edmund Wilson.
- Harper's Magazine*, June : Sell the Papers, Thomas Hardy. Chronicles of a Playwright, Jerome K. Jerome. Behind the Blocs, Charles Merz.
- Literary Digest*, May 23 : The "Shylock Idea" of Uncle Sam. Why Conrad Didn't Write in French. "Meet Logan!"
- Living Age*, May 2 : Will Cailiaux Come Back? Stephane Lauzanne. Continental Protestantism To-day, Adolf Keller.
— — May 23 : Some Books the World Should Know, Sir Ernest Benn.
- Nation*, May 13 : Overcrowding in Women's Colleges, William Allan Neilson. The Publishers of Vienna, Ernst Klarwill.
— — May 20 : The War Against Evolution, Miriam Allen de Ford.
- Scribner's Magazine*, June : How Free is Free Speech? Robert W. Winston. The Writing of Fiction. Constructing a Novel, Edith Wharton. Recent Strides of Federal Authority, William Cabell Bruce.
- World's Work*, June : New Page Letter, Edit. Burton J. Hendrick. The Change in Coolidge, French Strother. The Menace of Overpopulation, E.M. East. The Religious Reformation, W. S. Rainsford.

BRITISH

- Conservative Review*, May : Hindenburg, T. H. Weigall. The Serbian Elections, Dudley Heathcote.

- Contemporary Review*, June : France's Fresh Start, Sisley Huddleston. Hindenburg—and After, O. de L. Russia Revisited, A. Ruth Fry.
- English Review*, June : The Pro-Consuls—a Tribute to Lord Milner, Rudyard Kipling. The Problem of Security: the German Offer. Brig. Gen. J. H. Morgan. The Truth about Imperial Russia, Prof. Charles Saroles.
- Fortnightly Review*, June : The Situation in the Balkans, Hugh F. Spender. France, Hindenburg and Peace, John Bell. Social and Industrial Conditions in Post-War Germany, Part I, Sir Philip Dawson.
- Nation and Athenaeum*, May 16 : The Rhine Question.
— — May 30 : The Geneva Minimum, Norman Angell.
- Nineteenth Century and After*, June : The Problem of Aliens in France, André and Adrien Paulian. The Future of Islamism, A. Rustom Bey. Sheila Kaye-Smith as a Poet, Coulson Kernahan.
- Spectator*, May 23 : A Fisherman's Holiday in France.

FRENCH

- Europe*, May 15. Souvenirs et Entretiens de Carl Spitteler, Romain Rolland.
- Europe Nouvelle*, May 16. Le Budget Magnifique du Reich, C. Loutre.
— — May 23. Réforme militaire et Service d'un an.
- Les Marges*, May 15. Trois Aspects de Maurras, Pierre Lièvre.
- Mercure de France*, May 15. Art décoratif et art classique, Louis Fourzt. Michelet et la Guerre de 1870, Jean-Marie Carré.
- Revue des Deux Mondes*, May 1. La Mission du Prince Napoléon en Italie (1866).
— — May 15. L'Impôt sur le capital, Raphael-Georges Lévy. La seconde République, Duc de Broglie.
- Revue Européenne*, May 1. Marcel Proust et le Temps retrouvé, Léon Pierre-Quint.
- Revue Hebdomadaire*, May 16. Le Paysan chez Paul-Louis Courier, Noel Sabord.
— — May 23. Au Maroc, l'Ecole des Colons et l'Ecole des Ministres, René Séguy.
- Revue de Paris*, May 1. Enquête sur la Situation financière de la France, Paul Leclère.
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