IN THE REALM OF LITERATURE AND ART.

BOOK REVIEWS.

THE PHILIPPINES PAST AND PRESENT. By Dean C. Worcester, secretary of the interior of the Philippine Islands, 1901-1903, author of "The Philippine Islands and Their People." New York: The Macmillan Company.

DEAN C. WORCESTER was familiarly acquainted with the Philippines long before the Spanish-American war brought these islands into the personal consciousness and concern of the United States. As early as 1887, while yet a college student, he went to the Philippines with Prof. Joseph B. Steere of Michigan University in the interest of zoological research. Again, beginning with 1890, he spent two and a half years there in the same pursuit. About five years later the Spanish-American war once more returned him to the islands. From that time on until last year, when he voluntarily gave up the work, he stood in official relation to them. As a member of both Philippine commissions, and as secretary of the interior under the establishment of civil government there, he had, from the start, a share in the organization and administration of this territory. It is by reason of this long personal, first-hand experience—an experience unofficial and intimate, as well as official and responsible—that this author stands before the public in such full preparedness to speak with seasoned judgment and ripe authority on the subject of the Philippines. The two volumes of this study give readers access to a compendium of the essential facts and conditions of the islands, and to the problems facing the United States that have grown from these facts and conditions. In straight and forceful fashion the first volume gathers up the situation as it has developed since the Spanish-American war. Mr. Worcester begins with a discussion of the good faith of this country toward the islanders. Did we, unqualifiedly, promise them independence, as some contend? And did we, by our operations in the islands destroy a full-fledged republic, as some would have us think? In dealing with these questions Mr. Worcester has a good deal to say about the boasted "co-operation" of the insurgents while we were fighting Spain. It is of moment to bear in mind that throughout this discussion Mr. Worcester supports every direct statement of essential fact with official record or other proven and accepted testimony. And out of these records themselves comes a deal of direct evidence of insurgent treachery. Out of them comes, too, by manifold deductions, evidence of a complete absence on the part of the Filipinos of any adequate conception of either the principles or practices of the independence and self-government for which they were so eagerly clamoring.

This first volume describes also the constructive work of the two commissions and of the subsequently established civil government, in the interests of public health and order, in the administration of justice and the promotion of peace and industry. The second volume is devoted, in large part, to a description of the outlying non-Christian tribes, whose numbers and capabilities raise them to an importance hitherto overlooked or neglected by explorers. This discussion covers what has been done in this period for the general well-being of these tribes, as well as for their practical co-ordination with the central government of the islands. This volume takes account of the natural resources of the Philippines and outlines from these something of the nature and scope of the economic possibilities of the islands. It makes report of the work of public improvement that has been projected and already in part accomplished. These improvements include good roads, better methods of agriculture and manufacture, sanitation, schools and experiments in local self-government. The two volumes sum to an invaluable source of information about Philippine life and character, Philippine resources and possibilities. And this whole store of essential and dependable fact is brought forward and set face to face with the question of the preparedness of the Philippines for immediate independence. Mr. Worcester himself does not in any particular evade giving full and logical answer to the manifold parts into which this pressing question resolves itself. The substantial quality of this discussion and its all-around high character give it the value of documentary evidence in any study of the realities of the Philippine question.

THE BUSINESS OF A GENTLEMAN. By H. N. Dickenson. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

Sir Robert Wilton, the hero of this tale, is a modern feudal lord. Sir Robert is an English landed proprietor, surrounded by a dependent peasantry that has come down, along with their beloved "Bobby," from a long line of noble Wiltons and their retainers. This case of new feudalism, even as that of the ancient type, is built upon the theory of protection and fealty—protection from the lord of the manor, and fealty to him from his dependent people. And this feudal idea, whether the old or the new, rests upon the basic fact that one is, after all, his brother's keeper. But the harshness of that olden time buried this mutual bond under oppressive cruelties on the one hand, and secret treacheries on the other. Now, Mr. Dickenson, in "The Business of a Gentleman," revives the ancient institution in the full beauty and strength of an unpolluted "protection and fealty." With this revival he makes an absorbing story of modern life, drawing as he goes along the picture of an idyllic English country home, at the head of which is a fine clean Englishman looking after the well-being of his dependents. Off against this picture of contentment and good will Mr. Dickenson sets the forces of agitation and revolt, in a very clever satire on the foolhardy agencies of self-exploitation in the name of reform. By the misfortune of an inheritance falling to his wife Sir Bobby finds himself possessed of a broken-down factory that is equipped with a strike among its workmen, and not much else. It is here that the malcontents get in their work, under the leadership of a band of reformers. These are mostly of the female persuasion. They are out for every human frailty that can be dug out of their own reeking imaginations and, by hook or crook, applied to their hapless victims. And here, with the new foctory on his hands, the troubles of Sir Bobby begin. A very substantial and ominous plot develops through the ingenuity of these pious inquisitors—as a rule they work in the name of one or another of the Christian virtues, though a few of them are frankly socialists, and a few are even heathen. But an idealistic feudal lord, with "protection and fealty" in his blood and fair play in his heart, tackles his new problem in the spirit of his whole life. And there is but one issue to such work, to be sure. One comes out of this reading face to face with the fact that Mr. Dickenson has built an exceptional novel around a thesis—a very dangerous thing to do, and one that has made many an unwary novelist come a cropper in good earnest. But not this one. He not only saves his own literary neck, but he tells an uncommonly fine and fresh story, and outlines a consistent social program on the thesis that the hope of the social and industrial future lies with those who for many generations have embodied such leadership as lies in the old feudal notion—with those who are not themselves tainted with the practices of modern industrialism. Bring the feudal idea into the towns for the running of the shops and factories. This is the heart of Mr. Dickenson's fine story.

SANDY. By S. R. Crockett, author of "The Stickit Minister," etc. Frontispiece by R. Pearson Lawrence. New York: The Macmillan Company.

In the story of Sandy Pryde, Galloway Scotsman, gone down to storm London and thereby make his fortune—in literature if may be, but by any other decent business if must be—Mr. Crockett achieves, by all odds, his richest and completest romance. The special qualities that swung "The Stickit Minister" and its successors into immediate and hearty general favor control "Sandy," fresh and undiminished. But in addition to the power that these others show to reproduce the Scotch character in all its dimensions, and, besides their artistry not only with the face of the Scotch landscape, but with its moods and ways as well, there is in this new novel a wider fling than any of these others possess, and at the same time a finer control, a clearer general convergence upon the heart of the matter. "Sandy" is a big, wholesome, absorbing romance, wherein most interesting and believable people meet and fill situations some of which are exacting, some stirring, some pathetic, some just plain everyday situations, but all essential to the spirited and dramatic development of the career of Sandy Pryde, come down from Galloway to London.

OUTLINES. By John D. Barry, author of "Intimations." San Francisco: Paul Elder & Co.

Here are half a hundred little parables of every day.

Each is addressed to all the world.

Each enwraps one or another of the multitudinous selves and attitudes in which the soul looks out in humanwise upon the mystery of life.

Each, like some exquisitely wrought gem, is a model of symmetry, a pattern of simplicity, a marvel of transparency.

All work together to give us lightning flashes of our real but elusive selves as these exist under their overlayings of convention and custom.

Mr. Barry calls these "brief studies in fiction, representing an effort to give an imaginative interpretation to familiar human experiences." It is writing of great beauty and distinction, little dramas of life set in a golden imagination. As a book, a thing for the hand and the eye, it is also one of Paul Elder's artistic productions.

THE FOOTHILLS OF PARNASSUS. By John Kendrick Bangs. New York: The Macmillan Company.

Everybody is a poet—minor in the vast majority of cases and more often than otherwise quite dumb, but a poet nevertheless in the feelings and fancies set a-stirring by the multitudinous beauty and movement in the common world about him. What this mute but essential poet is seeking is some vocal poet to sing out the songs of familiar things, crooning so brokenly in his own heart. Now, left to himself, one would never have chosen John Kendrick Bangs to be this voice, this vicarious poet. For somewhere, somehow he had gathered the notion that Mr. Bangs was pretty much bent toward pure amusement, with little or no concern about the reticencies of emotion and imagination. But something in the mere sound of "the foothills of Parnassus" threw the balance his-way-ward, and the choice was made. And now comes the astonishment and the delight. For out from this little book come trooping poems of delicate fancy and great beauty, poems of gentle voice and tender bearing. Here "in lyric vein," "in lighter strain" and in deep notes they come, flashing innumerable rays of pure delight. Here are whimsies that remind one of Stevenson and a playfulness like that of Eugene Field. Now and then there is a gleam of Aldrich's gossamer delicacy, and here and there the shrewd vernacular tunefulness of Holmes and Lowell. Once in a while there is a line of the clear philosophic quality of Emerson himself. This reads a bit extravagant, but it is quite true. Altogether charming is it within these circling "Foothills of Parnassus."

THE MONTESSORI PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE. By E. P. Culverwell, M. A., fellow and senior tutor Trinity College, Dublin; professor of education, University of Dublin. New York: John Martin's House.

Relatively, this writer pays scant attention to the more superficial features of the Montessori theory of educating young children. These more obvious and easily seized features comprise what is known as the Montessori material—certain concrete objects with the devices and practices attending their use. Already this material has been described and re-described by zealous new disciples of Dr. Montessori. To such an extent, as a matter of fact, is this being done that unmistakable signs now point to the need of rescuing the whole scheme from the faddists and from the dangers of an exaggerated and unconsidered enthusiasm. The aim of this writer is to meet such need; to restore, in so far as he is able, to the Montessori theory its original fine proportions and balance. In order to accomplish this much-needed task, he carefully supports and buttresses this superstructure of practice by an elaboration of its underlying principles. He describes in detail, moreover, the full accord of the Montessori plan, not only with the biological development of the child, but also its accord with the evolution of society—where the child must take his place and do his part—along the line of democratic ideals. This fundamental harmony points the value and permanency of the plan itself. It is here in this searching scrutiny of the broad aspects of the Montessori system that the study reaches its highest point. From Dr. Montessori's own standpoint, the author explains the uses of spontaneity as an educative force. He sets its conditions and defines its nature. He elaborates the principle of freedom, that corner stone of the Montessori gospel of education. He deduces the effect of this theory upon character and upon the power of self-discipline. A most interesting and suggestive part of this discussion is Mr. Culverwell's forecast of the use of the fundamental principles of the Montessori method in much later stages of training than that of early childhood. As a whole, the book is a very competent and restrained examination of the Montessori principles and practice. It is, moreover, a valuable study in education. It comes opportunely, besides, as a study calculated to arrest—or at least to divert readers from—the less considered treatises on the Montessori theory of early education.

THOMAS RITCHIE; a Study in Virginia Politics. By Charles Henry Ambler, Ph. D., author of "Sectionalism in Virginia," etc. Richmond: Bell Book and Stationery Company.

In this volume Mr. Charles H. Ambler achieves a most competent and illuminating study in Virginia politics by way of a sympathetic and discerning scrutiny of the political power and influence of Thomas Ritchie, whom he names a "second son" of Virginia, in contrast to the distinguished group whose members—Washington, Madison, Jefferson, Marshall, Monroe and Randolph—are claimed by the entire nation. The author moves rapidly from Ritchie's youth to the beginning of his influence in Virginia's politics. At this point the study slows down to a detailed and considered examination of Mr. Ritchie's political aims for the commonwealth, and of the methods employed by this masterful man to accomplish these aims. Living today, Thomas Ritchie would be counted a political boss, but one devoid of some of the unsavory elements that attach to modern bossism. Rather was he a dominating and persuasive personality bent to the service of his state and politically shrewd and far-seeing in its interests. By reason of the prominence of Virginia in the Union, and by reason of the prominence of Thomas Ritchie in his state, both the men and the state continually overflow their borders and become one with national interests and concerns. It is an admirable study. With an enormous amount of information at the tip of his tongue, Mr. Ambler phrases this with spirit and force, and gathers it up in dramatic and impressive pictures, all of which are turned to what the author himself calls a belated recognition of Thomas Ritchie.

THE ROCKS OF VALPRE. By Ethel M. Dell, author of "The Knave of Diamonds," etc. New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons.

Unfortunately, in reading here, one's attention is more than likely to be divided between the entertainment of the story itself and the conflicting emotions set up by a curious inconsistency in its make-up. Belaboring his imagination to its utmost even, one is not able to guess why a writer capable of creating the two fine upstanding men of lifelikely outlook and behavior that figure here should condemn both of them to the dolorous and disappointing task of loving the girl of this story faithfully and well. For this girl appears more like a case of arrested moral development than she does like a normally expanding and maturing woman. She lives in large part by trifling deceptions and inept lyings, deceptions and lyings of the disingenuous and short-sighted sort such as little children use upon occasion. To be sure the girl is beautiful and very helpless, but these qualities alone are hardly sufficient, even in a story, to inspire a grand passion in the hearts of two more than commonly fine men. As a fact, the parts of this novel having to do with its heroine and her three brothers read more like a study of degeneracy than like the elements of romance. The plot is good. There is nothing about it to prevent its being supported by a really fine heroine. The setting is more than ordinarily picturesque. The men are exceptional, each in his own way. Now if the heroine had only grown from the little girl that she was at the beginning of this romance into a woman instead of remaining a little girl, and a very objectionable one at that in certain respects, what an interesting and readable story this would have been, instead of an irritating and disappointing one.

LITTLE STORIES BY BIG MEN. Compiled by Annabel Lee. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

Within this little volume one is privileged to meet considerably more than a hundred men prominent before the public today, or yesterday. And what is even better, one meets them, too, in their easy minutes of relaxation, when each delivers over one or more good stories. Many of these stories are jokes at the narrator's own expense; the most of them are the very cream of good anecdote, and all of them light up the freer and more intimate corners of personality and good-fellowship. Here, each tossing off his contribution to the whole, are President, Vice President and ex-Presidents. Here are senators and representatives, judges, generals and admirals. Here are David Warfield, and Buffalo Bill, and Christy Mathewson and a host of others whom the world delights to honor. In fact, one misses only George Ade and Mr. Dooley. But these, no doubt, have already many times over made public their best in this line. The volume sums, as one of the narrator's himself would say, to a book of corking stories.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

CALM YOURSELF. By George Lincoln Walton, M. D., author of "Why Worry," etc. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company.

MRS. BRAND: A Novel. By H. A. Mitchell Keays, author of "The Road to Damascus," etc. Boston: Small, Maynard & Co.

SEXUAL KNOWLEDGE: Sex Hygiene By Highest Authority. By Winfield Scott Hall, Ph. D., M. D., etc., assisted by Jeanette Winter Hall. Philadelphia: International Bible House.

THE EFFICIENT MAN; For the Use of All Interested in the Training of Minors and Development of Supervisors to Best Manage Men and Work in Commerce, etc. By Thomas D. West. Illustrated. Cleveland: Gardner Printing Company.

LITTLE MAMSELLE OF THE WILDERNESS; A Story of La Salle and His Pioneers. By Augusta Huiell Seaman. Drawings by George Wharton Edwards. New York: Sturgis & Walton.

FESTIVAL PLAYS; One-act Pieces for New Year's Day, St. Valentine's Day, etc. By Marguerite Merington. New York: Duffield & Co.

THE AIR PILOT; A Modern Love Story. By Randall Parrish, author of "My Lady of Doubt," etc. Illustrated by Clarence F. Underwood. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.

THE LAND OF MYSTERY. By Cleveland Moffett, author of "The Battle," etc. New York: The Century Company.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

NEW BOOKS OF SOCIOLOGY AND ECONOMICS.

The following books treating of various economic and social questions have been recently added to the Public Library:

Social Science.

Nearing, Scott. Social Sanity. H-N277s.
Parsons, John. Each for All and All for Each. 1909. H-P255.
Schenck, F. S. The Sociology of the Bible. 1909. H-Sch26s.

Economics.

Hopkins, A. A. Wealth and Waste. 1910. HC-H774w.
Mackmurdo, A. H. Pressing Questions. HC-M215p.
Murdock, J. G. Economics as the Basis of Living Ethics. HC-M945e.
Salzmann, L. F. English Industries of the Middle Ages. HE45-Sa39.
Seager, H. R. Principles of Economics. HC-Se143p.
Small, A. W. The Cameralists, the Pioneers of German Social Polity. 1909. HC47-Sm16.
Taylor, F. M. Principles of Economics. 1911. HC-T212p.
Washington, W. D. Progress and Prosperity. 1911. HC-H274p.

Business.

Brand, E. S. A Treatise on the Real Estate Business in All Its Branches. 1911. HKJ-B735.
Bunting, H. S. The Premium System of Forcing Sales. HKA-B885p.
Cole, W. M. Cost Accounting for Institutions. HKBC-C674.
Goffe, W. T. Problems in Retail Selling, Analyzed. HKF-G554.
Hall, M. P. The Art of Accounts. HKB-H15.
Hammond, H. W. Style-book of Business English. HKC-H186s.
How to Systematize the Day's Work. 1911. HK-1H83.
Musselman, De Lafayette. Complete Bookkeeping. 1911. HKB-M977c.
Paris, B. J. Hardware Advertising for the Retailer. HKA-P217h.
Shorrock, E. G. Accounting Systems for Mercantile Concerns. 1911. HKB-Sh78.
Sullivan, J. W. Markets for the People. HKM-Su55.

Banking and Investments.

Bordwell, G. O. Modern Banking Methods. HN-B647m.
The Geiger-Jones Co., Canton, Ohio. Non-taxable Incomes. 1911. HWI-G274n.
International School of Banking, Detroit. A Practical Course of Instruction in Banking. HN-In83p.
Investor's Manual. HR-51n88.
Mortimer, F. C. The Investment of Trust Funds. 1909. HWI-M844.
Skinner, E. B. The Mathematical Theory of Investment. HWI-Sk36m.
Wyckoff, R. D. Studies in Tape Reading. 1910. HR-W973s.

Transportation.

Bakenhus, R. E. The Panama Canal. HJR-B178.
Hedrick, W. O. The History of Railroad Taxation in Michigan. 1912. HJR-H354.
Sakolski, A. M. American Railroad Economics. HJR-Sa25.
Sayings and Writings About the Railways. HJR-Sa99.
U. S. National Waterways Commission. Final Report. 1912. HJW-Un38.

Social Work.

Cannon, I. M. Social Work in the Hospitals. IG-C166s.
Heape, Walter. Sex Antagonism. IAR-H356s.
Heffner, W. C. History of Poor Relief Legislation in Pennsylvania, 1682-1913. IG854-H36.
Henderson, C. R. Social Programmes in the West. I-H382so.
Sears, Amelia. The Charity Visitor. IAS-Se16.
Ward, H. F. Social Creed of the Churches. I-W213s.
Woods, R. A., and Kennedy, A. J. Young Working Girls. IAS-W867y.

Temperance.

Hammell, G. M., ed. The Passing of the Saloon. 1908. ICI-H186.
Johnson, W. E. The Federal Government and the Liquor Traffic. 1911. ICI-J638f.
Nichols, E. D. The Second Declaration of Independence. ICI-N315s.
Sullivan, W. C. Alcoholism. 1906. ICI-Su55.
Warner, H. S. Social Welfare and the Liquor Problem. ICI-W243s.
Whitmore, O. B. Bible Wines vs. the Saloon-keeper's Bible. 1911. ICI-W598.

Saving.

Kleiser, Grenville, comp. How to Make and Save Money. IH-K674h.
Kniffin, W. H. The Savings Bank and Its Practical Work. IJ-K74.
MacGregor, T. D. Talks on Thrift. IH-M177t.
Rosenthal, H. S. Building, Loan and Savings Associations. 1911. IH-R726.
U. S. National Monetary Commission. Notes on the Postal Savings-bank Systems of the Leading Countries. IJ-Un30.

Insurance.

American School of Correspondence, Chicago. Fire Insurance Inspection. 2 v. 1911. IIF-Am37fr.
Dawson, M. M. Elements of Life Insurance. 1911. IIL-D327e.
Digg, H. W. Liability Investigator's Handbook. 1908. IIA-6D573.
Gephart, W. F. Insurance and the State. IIS-G296.
Scudder, W. R. The Fallacies of Life Insurance. IIL-Scu23f.
The Spectator Co., N. Y. Reports of Fire Insurance Companies for year ending December 31, 1912. IIF-Sp33.

NEWS AND NOTES OF ART AND ARTISTS

IN the hemicycle hall of the Corcoran Gallery of Art was opened today an exhibition of paintings by two brothers, Alexander and Birge Harrison, who have both won unusual distinction in the field of art.

Alexander Harrison has resided abroad for years and enjoys an international reputation. Birge Harrison has traveled much, but makes his home in this country and in addition to his individual, creative work, has contributed much to the development of art in America through his teaching in connection with the Woodstock School of landscape painting. Besides being a painter and a teacher, he is a lecturer and writer.

The present exhibition comprises a collection assembled by Miss Cornelia B. Sage, director of the Albright gallery, Buffalo, through the co-operation of the painters, which was shown first in Buffalo last autumn, then in the Chicago Art Institute, later in the City Museum, St. Louis, the Art Museum of Toledo, the Art Museum of Detroit, the Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, and now here.

Two of the pictures by Alexander Harrison have been loaned by the Luxembourg Museum of Paris; others have been borrowed from public museums and galleries in this country, as well as from private collectors. The Corcoran gallery loaned for the circuit the painting by Alexander Harrison, "Twilight," which belongs to its private collection. The St. Louis Art Museum loaned a similar theme which was one of its earliest acquisitions and also a painting by Birge Harrison of "The Flatiron Building, New York, After Rain," purchased from the painter in 1907.

To the catalogue of the exhibition, published in Buffalo and used in other cities, Arthur Hoeber, artist and art critic, contributed a foreword which is both appreciative and informing. He says:

"Alexander Harrison, the elder of the two brothers, has been a maker of art history, an important figure, for more than thirty years in Europe as well as in his own country, where, by virtue of his originality, his scholarly attainments and his poetic outlook on nature, he has held attention and serious admiration. The sea, the figure, landscape, all these he painted in a manner so novel, so personal, so convincing, so entirely his own that literally all Europe sat up and took notice. Said the eminent German art historian, Richard Muther, keeper of the New Pinakothek, in Munich: 'Every one of his pictures was a palpable hit. "In Arcady" was painted with such virtuosity, felt with such poetry and so free of all the heaviness of earth that one hardly had the sense of looking at a picture at all. When Harrison exhibited his "Wave" sea pieces by Duez, Roll and Victor Binet were also in existence, but his was the best of them all. The rendering of water was so extraordinarily faithful that one was tempted to declare the water of the others was absolutely solid compared with this elemental essence of moisture.' His 'In Arcadia,' a large canvas of nudes out of doors, made a veritable sensation when it was shown in the Paris Salon. It was bought for the Luxembourg gallery, and the man's fame was settled for all time. Yet, happily, his success never feazed him for a moment. He remains today the faithful student, the ever-searching, experimenting, relying absolutely on himself and blazing his own trail.

"Birge Harrison, but a year younger than Alexander, came to Paris and entered the studio of Cabanel, in the 'Ecole des Beaux Arts,' where he worked faithfully to such good purpose that his 'November,' an early work, received an award. It was a figure picture. The human element held his attention only a short while, when he turned to the landscape and the sea, excelling in both directions, disclosing fidelity to the varying moods of the world out of doors. Each brother, too, kept to his own way of looking at nature, of rendering her, and neither lacked for official commendation, the list of honors that both show being a formidable one, while their canvases are in many museums and distinguished private collections both in this country and in Europe. Of an old Philadelphia family, the younger man began his art education in the schools of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, but on the advice of John S. Sargent, back from Paris on a visit, he was induced to go to the French city for further study. Alexander was for a while in the United States coast survey, but the art instinct became too strong and he started in at the art schools of San Francisco, soon finding his way to Paris, where he enrolled under the late J. L. Gerome.

"It is with pictures of the snow the brother Birge is most identified, for he has devoted considerable attention to this aspect of nature, and to this end has spent much of his time in Canada. But the streets of New York also received his attention and furnished him with sympathetic material, while occasionally a marine has disclosed his ability in that direction, the sea invariably being represented under poetic aspect. Together, it may be said that these two men represent a very serious side of American art accomplishment. They are so thoroughly identified with the past thirty years of native endeavor that this exhibition possesses a deep significance of which their countrymen and women should be unqualifiedly proud. Here are canvases that have challenged the admiration of the leaders of world's art in the great European capitals, canvases that have been epoch-making, that have changed the direction of art thought and processes."

Mr. Hoeber concludes his foreword by quoting a saying by Robert Louis Stevenson—"If a man love the labor of any trade apart from any question of success or fame, the gods have called him"—to which he adds, "I, who have known both these brothers long and hold them in deep affection, may hazard the suspicion that their call was unmistakable."



"MOONLIGHT AND FOAM." BY ALEXANDER HARRISON.
Special exhibit at Corcoran Gallery of Art.

The picture given the place of honor in the hemicycle hall is the canvas "In Arcadia," loaned by the Luxembourg, to which reference has already been made. It is a large canvas and very striking, showing nude female figures in a green wood steeped in summer sunshine. It is reserved, very refined, and yet very masterly painted. A picture well meriting the high rank it has been given. There are two other canvases by Alexander Harrison of almost if not quite equal size, "Twilight," a marine loaned by the St. Louis Art Museum, which was shown at the Pan-American exposition, and a picture of women bathing. A fourth large and important canvas by this same painter is "The Amateurs," a boy and girl fishing from a boat, which is owned and loaned by the Art Institute of Chicago.

Birge Harrison's paintings have all been grouped on the flat wall and make an interesting and attractive showing. They are smaller canvases and chiefly of American themes—moods of nature found in town and country, rendered with much sympathy and poetic feeling. One or two are of snow, some are nocturnes, not a few display exquisite cloud effects, most artistically interpreted.

Originally the plan was to separate the collection here, showing only Alexander Harrison's paintings in Washington, while his brother's were shown elsewhere, but at the last it was concluded to keep the exhibition representative of both, and certainly to do so was wise and well. Birge Harrison has exhibited here before, but not these pictures, and he is furthermore, here as elsewhere, invariably a welcome exhibitor.

This exhibition will continue through March 29, and is free to the public every week day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sunday afternoons.

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IN New York, this week, at the American art galleries, was exhibited and sold at public auction a collection of small finished pictures, sketches and drawings by the late Francis D. Millet, who for several years prior to his tragic death on board the Titanic had a studio in this city. The following description of the collection was given by the art critic of the New York Times:

"The pictures were for the most part small, and included a considerable group of charming pencil drawings. A number of the paintings were reminiscent of the artist's student years. In Antwerp he was a pupil in the Royal Academy of Fine Arts, and a portrait of a tidy kitchen, also a study of a street corner, with its grass-grown pavement and its shrine, and a study of his own bedroom, were reminiscent of his Antwerp period. Kitchens amused him, and he painted his own, a picturesque room with a wall of black and white tiles and a red-tiled floor, a shelf of gleaming brass and copper, and a capacious cupboard; also a Swedish kitchen, with many woven hangings, chairs with turned legs, and pots of plants, as different from the Belgian version as one language is from another.

"A third kitchen scene was from Stanton, not far from the artist's English home at Broadway, a huge gray-plastered place, with a beamed ceiling and a flagged floor. In each the character of the place was kept not only in the particular furnishings, but in the color and tone of the whole. There were several delightful fragments of the Clovelly landscape, and there were pleasant notes of travel in Capri, Venice and the Black Forest. A few details of mural decorations were included in the collection, as were a number of portraits. Not an overpowering collection, but the more appealing for its intimate and personal character and its offering of modest canvases that had a special relation to the painter's personal experiences."

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THE exhibition of portraits by the National Association of Portrait Painters, which was to have opened in the National Gallery about the 12th of this month, has been delayed in transit and will not open until the 21st. It will, however, remain on view for four weeks. This exhibition promises to be most interesting and notable.

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THE League for the Decoration of the Public Schools has done and is doing an excellent work in Washington—a work limited only by its financial resources. Its object has been not merely to put pictures into the public schools and thus widen the school children's knowledge, but to create environment, literally to decorate and make more beautiful the buildings wherein both pupils and teachers spend so great a part of each day for the long season. The Hubbard School was the first decorated. This was done completely from top to bottom as an example. Since then others have been done in whole or part. From the first the league has had the co-operation of the municipal architect and the school board, and has worked in harmony with both. Tangible aid has also in some instances been given by the teachers.

Great improvements have been made in the school buildings in recent years; there has been improvement in architectural design, and also in interior finish. The newer buildings are not the dreary, unsightly affairs the older ones are or were. The walls now are tinted, woodwork well finished, light properly regulated. In some instances the league has met the expense of tinting old walls, but ordinarily this has been done by the District authorities. Its mission has been to secure pictures, sculpture, objects of art of suitable descriptions, and see that they were properly placed. Within the last year four or five schools have been decorated and more will receive attention as rapidly as the means at the disposal of the league permits. The membership of the league is about 300. James Rush Marshall is president, Miss Myra Hendley secretary, and Miss Grace Lincoln Temple chairman of the committee on decoration.

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AN exhibition of hand printing and illuminating by Robert Wilson Hyde of Santa Barbara, Cal., is now being held in the Arts and Crafts Shop, on 17th street. There are texts and whole paragraphs which one might wish to read and reread, ornamentally printed and framed; there are books and there are odd sayings, combined with photographs exquisitely colored by hand. Printing is an art—more truly so than many today understand or believe—and the fine printing in this instance is combined with very ornamental decoration. There is something a little florid about Mr. Hyde's works, suggestive of the warmth of California suns and wealth of nature, but there is reserve also. He shows excellent craftsmanship, and his productions are quite out of the ordinary.

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THE next lecture in the popular course on modern masters, which is being given under the auspices of the Washington Society of the Fine Arts, is to be on Saint-Gaudens and will be given by Glenn Brown, president of the society, Tuesday evening at 8:30 o'clock in the auditorium of the National Museum. Mr. Brown directed the arrangement of the Saint-Gaudens exhibition which was held here some years ago in the Corcoran Gallery and later in the Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh. Season tickets for these lectures were given out to those registering at the first of the season.

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THE art talk at the Corcoran School which was to have been given last Monday afternoon was postponed on account of the small attendance, occasioned by the storm. It will be given next Monday at the usual time, 4:15 p.m., and will be on "Technique, With Reference to Some Present Day Tendencies."

LEILA MECHLIN.

TAKING A FAMILY BACK TO THE SOIL

Being the Experiences of a Government Clerk Who Sets Out to Lower the High Cost of Living.

When I went home last night and announced that I had signed a lease for the eight-acre place in the country Jim and Ned let out whoops of joy that might have been heard all the way to the Peace Monument. Little Margery, though she can have but the vaguest of notions as to what it is all about, caught the spirit from her brothers and danced about in an abandon of delight. She wanted to start right away, and went to get her hat and coat.

Jane didn't say much, but her manner when she came over and kissed me was more eloquent of approval than any words could be. I am the head of the family, and as such, of course, had to make the decision. But it was a good deal like the verdict a jury returns under instruction from the court. When Jane declared Thursday night that she was ready to undertake a life wholly strange to us, and that she was afraid, because of Margery's delicate health, to stay in the flat another summer, the issue was made up in favor of the country. It had to be this place or some other one, and now that the matter is settled I am satisfied with our choice.

The house isn't attractive in appearance, but the eight rooms are large and well lighted, and it will be as comfortable, no doubt, as any house could be that hasn't a single modern convenience. If we buy at the end of the year we shall add wide porches and put in a heating plant and running water, with a bath. Then, with an open fireplace in at least one room, it would be more like the kind of a country home we have been dreaming about.

Two Plans of Purchase.

Jane's $5,000, which she inherited from an uncle ten years ago, is invested in a listed bond, which we can sell at any time at a little above par. We could pay the entire $3,750 purchase price and still have $1,250 with which to make improvements. Or we could exercise our option to pay half cash and carry the rest as a trust, which no doubt could be extended indefinitely. This would leave us $3,125, so that we could make the improvements and still have an emergency fund. We always have said that when we bought a home we would have it free of incumbrance, though we know that probably a majority of home-owners think it is good business policy to carry as much on mortgage as a first trust will stand.

However, that is a decision we don't have to make right now. The thing immediately confronting us is how to finance the undertaking during the year for which we have signed the lease. Since my talk the other day with Capt. Russell, when he advised me to go slow and not attempt too much, I realize that I am going to have to be careful not to get in beyond my financial depth. Still, after a year in the country, I want to have something in the way of accomplishment to show for it more than a little garden patch and a few chickens for family use. Unless we make some kind of an effort this year we'll not be much wiser as to the possibilities of country life than we would be by staying in town.

Though I shall expect to begin to get stuff from the garden along in June, which will be a big help, even a novice can see that for the first six months, or until after October 1, it is going to be mostly a case of everything going out and nothing coming in. If we raise chickens it will be six or seven months before the hens begin to lay eggs. Capt. Russell advises that if I attempt a "money crop" it be either corn or potatoes, preferably corn, as he doubts if the soil can be gotten in condition to grow a profitable crop of potatoes. Neither corn nor potatoes would be ready to market before fall. It would seem, therefore, that I have got to determine how much money I will have available between now and October 1, and map out my program accordingly.

Available Working Capital.

For the past few years, living in the city, my salary of $1,200 a year has barely enabled me to make ends meet. In fact, we would have run behind had it not been for the income from Jane's $5,000. We would have liked to have allowed this fund to accumulate, but it hasn't been possible, chiefly because of the large doctors' bills we have had for both Jane and Marjorie. Today there is in bank exactly $375. On July 1 a semi-annual interest payment of $112.50 will become due. This will bring our available cash up to $487.50. We are determined before we move to pay off every cent we owe in Washington, and that will reduce our fund to about $300. The rent of our flat has been $30 amonth, while that of the place in the country is only $20. But half of that saving will be wiped out by extra car fare, so that it will amount to but $5 a month. We figure that by dressing the children more simply, economizing in other ways and with the help we will get from our garden, we can cut down our household expenses $15 a month, so that, without cramping ourselves too much, we ought to have $20 a month available from my salary toward financing the venture. In six months this would amount to $120, giving us a total working capital of $420.

Capt. Russell says a well developed farm—a "going concern"—ought to have a working capital of at least $50 an acre. On that basis my capital would be about right for the eight acres, but the trouble is that this isn't a well developed farm. It isn't anything but arun-down piece of land covered with scrub brush and nothing worth mentioning in the way of improvements but the house, a small barn and a shed that has been used as a chicken house.

It will be worse than building from the ground up, for I'll have to start at the ground and build both ways—up for improvements, and down for fertility. Mr. Brown, who has the farm next my place, tells me it will cost $10 to $15 an acre to clear off the scrub brush. That would make a big hole in my capital, and I'm not certain it would be a wise thing to do unless we had practically made up our minds to buy the place.



To which Jane tied bows of red ribbons.

Jane to Raise Chickens.

I can't bring myself to believe there are such fabulous profits to be made in chickens as some folks claim, but Jane has her heart set on trying them. As it will be her money that pays for the place if we buy it, and as she is furnishing the bulk of the working capital even for the first year, I reckon she has a right to make the experiment. She plans to buy an incubator and hatch enough chickens so that she can raise a hundred pullets. Authorities tell us that every hen will represent an investment of at least a dollar when she is ready to lay eggs, so there will go $100 of the working capital. The shed on the place that has been used for a chicken house is big enough for about forty hens, but it will have to be fixed up considerably before it is fit for the purpose. To make these repairs, put up an additional building for sixty hens, buy an incubator, hovers, build brooder houses and buy eggs for hatching certainly will call for another $100.

So Jane's chicken program is going to cut our working capital to about half, leaving me in the neighborhood of $200 to begin operations as a farmer on land that will cost $10 to $15 an acre to get ready to plow. And I haven't a thing in the way of tools or implements except the hoe I bought the other day and had sent up to the flat, and to which Jane tied bows of red ribbons before hanging it in a place of honor on the sitting room wall.

E. S. M.

St. Louis' Stateliest Thoroughfare.

From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

An ambitious and praiseworthy project is brought within measurable distance of realization by the naming of commissioners to apportion damages and benefits in the widening of Washington avenue to eighty feet between Jefferson and Grand avenues. The cost will probably not fall below $1,000,000 and may largely exceed that sum. By heroic and costly street surgery the narrow throat of Washington at Grand will be greatly enlarged, with notable betterments in appearance and in traffic conditions. The improvement will give St. Louis at least one broad, beautiful street of dignity and stateliness—a representative thoroughfare in an especial sense, as it runs with slight changes in direction from Union avenue to the Eads bridge, and traverses in its extent business sections as important as the residence sections it traverses farther out are desirable.

This is not the only improvement by which ideals of the city plan movement are being slowly approximated in St. Louis. All preliminaries for the expectantly awaited slicing in the vicinity of Locust and Theresa are completed, and only the usual period for protest and appeal is being allowed to pass before the work of making the physical changes is begun.

To Assure Realism.

From the New York Globe.

"No," said the stage manager, "you are the heroine. You are supposed to suffer more than anybody else in the play. You must put yourself into a frame of mind which represents grief and remorse."

"I know," replied the leading woman. "I'll try to make myself believe I'm one of the people who paid $2 to see this play."

Didn't Know.

From the Newark News.

Betty—What is the luckiest day to be born on?

Jack—Can't say. I've only tried one.

Lucullan Emporia.

From the Emporia Gazette.

Year by year Emporia has been adding to her bill of fare. This winter will mark the coming of brussels sprouts and mushrooms in the way of vegetables, and sasabas, kumquats and pomegranates in the way of fruit. Fifteen years ago the green stuff at the average Kansas table was mighty scarce. Green lettuce from the hothouses; then came spinach from Texas; cauliflower followed spinach, and French carrots came after cauliflower; green peppers trailed along and fresh tomotoes from Florida widened the bill of fare considerably. And now comes fresh mushrooms and brussels sprouts. The winter table of the average country town dweller in the middle west is almost as good as the summer table. So far as a man's insides know of the seasons it would be hard to tell what time of the year it is from the character of the grub that is stoked in.

A Lost Heirloom.

From Puck.

"There is no gout in Sir Percy's family, is there?"

"Not now. There was formerly. It was introduced into the family by Sir Roland Highliver, but they have been so miserably poor for the last 200 years that they couldn't keep it up."