

will have value; but to those who content themselves with a more temperate admiration of Stevenson the writer, it will have little. So much of it is either speculation as to what the boy, Lewis, might have seen or heard or read, or description of his baby tea-set and his poplin dress—trimmed, was it, with red or green velvet?—that it is neither good biography nor good fiction. The author has been unfortunately influenced, too, by Stevenson's love of apt words, to imitate him where he most baffled imitation; and this leads her to vary her text by alluding to him by first one and then another nickname, from the *Lew*, *Smout*, and *Smoutie* of his Edinburgh days, to the *Tusitala* bestowed on him by the Samoans. As a result, we have the simple statement, "Stevenson wrote much of boats," dressed in this affected fashion: "Ships bulk largely in Tusitala's tales." The book surfeits with such fine writing.

In spite of all this, it gives a pleasant notion of Stevenson's parents, his nurse, to whom his life-long devotion was most creditable, and himself. Many people will learn here for the first time that he was bred a lawyer, and doubtless with equal surprise that his family pronounced his name "Lewis," and that its Gallicized spelling arose from this odd circumstance:

"Robert Lewis Balfour, our hero was baptized. Perhaps he thought there was a superabundance of letters in R. L. B. S. The Balfour soon dropped out of his name, and early he became R. L. S. . . . He also, like his grandsire [Lewis Balfour], started in life with his name spell Lewis. The story of the change to Louis is remarkable. Mr. Stevenson was a strong Conservative. Now in Robert Louis Stevenson's youthful years there was a Radical Town Councillor, yclept Lewis. So strong was Mr. Stevenson's aversion to the man that he ordered that in future his son's name should be spelt differently, even with a Frenchified turn in it, for fear the two families should be thought in any way connected."

Intimate China; The Chinese as I Have Seen Them. By Mrs. Archibald Little. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co.

Mrs. Little's handsome book is something more than a parlor-table ornament. While her husband writes on the Yangtse gorges and gives us philosophy and history, she professes modestly to tell only of things on the surface. In reality, by informing us, from long personal experience, of the home life of the Chinese, she adds greatly to our knowledge of this people, showing especially how nature powerfully influences man, both native and alien. For example, in her chapter on *fung-shui*, or the belief in climatic influences controlled by spirits, she shows how this belief in the agency of evil spirits gains upon the foreigners living among the Chinese. She cites the case of "Dr. Nevius, one of the most high-minded and noblest missionaries" in her circle of acquaintance, whose book on "Demon Possession" is as full of Chinese influence as of second-rate testimony. On the other hand, she shows that the Chinaman, by looking well to wind, water, sunshine, and other details that affect bodily health, is, at least, no more of a fool than the average real-estate agent or house-renter in other lands, who often ignores these things.

In very delightful style, the author crowds her readable pages with pleasant anecdotes and episodes. In "the romantic East" she found unromantic refuge in the cellar when the thermometer was at 120

degrees. She discusses without prejudices consuls, missionaries, and public functionaries, native and foreign. As a rule, while at the hong, tea-table, and clubroom the missionary fraternity is despised, the general praise of the individual healer or converter is warm and long. In her chapter on foot-binding, she makes it clear that this peculiarly Chinese custom does not connote rank, and that the idea of its being done to prevent females from gadding about is a purely foreign notion. She never ceases to praise the Chinese women for their modesty, dignity, business ability, and helpfulness to their husbands. Her testimony is but one of hundreds that in personal delicacy and hesitancy to expose the person, the Chinese man, as well as woman, is immeasurably superior to the Japanese.

Mrs. Little's travels in the empire took her into many provinces and enabled her to enjoy a wide range of observation. She is a hearty believer in the doctrine that the best interests of China and of mankind at large will be subserved by maintaining the political integrity of the empire. She is not blind to the shadows in the picture, frankly acknowledging that corruption is widespread. The most honest men in high office seem to be those who have least to do with Peking. Her remarks about the recent failure of the reform movement are suggestive and illuminating. Not much is to be hoped for China while the "ring," of which the Empress-Dowager is the centre, controls the destinies of the land. Our author's clear and wise arguments against the impossibility of making over the Chinese by any new or external means, and in favor of renewing country and people by the slow but sure methods of morality and religion, seem unanswerable.

Pickett and his Men. By LaSalle Corbell Pickett (Mrs. G. E. Pickett). Published by Mrs. Pickett, Washington, D. C. Printed and bound by The Foote & Davies Co., Atlanta, Ga. 8vo, pp. 439.

In this handsome volume the widow of the Confederate General who led his division in the historic and desperate charge at Gettysburg, relates the facts of his military career. She does more: she tells parts of the romantic story of her own married life in the closing year of the civil war, and the strange experiences of the interval between the wreck of the Confederacy and the full establishment of peace, when the survivors of the Southern army could settle themselves to industrious bread-winning with assurance of unmolested safety. These passages have a value that no other chapters of the book can possess. Her outline of her hero's life is authentic, and her praise of him and his devoted followers is eloquent, yet this deals with history that others could write, if not in such glowing terms. But her personal experience is unique and all her own. Here was a young thing, hardly more than a child, courted and won by a soldier already distinguished, just before he marched with Lee to invade the North in 1863, and in the first weeks of their betrothal came the great battle of Gettysburg which made his division and himself known to the whole world. Their marriage followed close on the end of the campaign, and his duties in and about Petersburg permitted her to share a good deal of his camp life. She was in Richmond when it fell into

our hands, half destroyed by the fires set by the retreating Confederates, and the perils of the great conflagration were mingled with the terrors of capture by an enemy. With dramatic instinct the story is begun here, and she lets us share the emotion of a young mother with her babe in her arms witnessing such scenes, and in the midst of them hearing the newsboys shouting the battle of Five-Forks and the death of her husband! Fortunately, the crowning calamity proved untrue, and, after a week of terrible suspense till the surrender at Appomattox, Pickett himself returned to disprove the harrowing story.

Before the full protection given by Grant's issue of paroles was understood, Pickett, on advice from friends on the national side, took refuge in Canada for some months. His wife's journey to join him there was filled with adventures stranger than any fiction. Their later return to build a cabin on the ruins of the old home on the James is told with genuine feeling and power. A great deal of faithful labor and skill has been expended upon the history of Pickett's military life from his West-Point graduation in 1846, in the Mexican war, on the Northwest frontier, when the boundary at Puget's Sound was nearly the cause of strife, as well as in the Confederacy; but we repeat the judgment that the chapters of the life of the young wife and mother in that turmoil of war will give the book a value to the historian, as well as a charm to the sympathetic reader, which will far exceed that of the military narrative, carefully as it has been prepared.

The Boy's Book of Inventions: Stories of the Wonders of Modern Science. By Ray Stannard Baker. Doubleday & McClure Company, 1899. 8vo, pp. 354.

Here is a fairly good book for boys, telling about automobiles, tall buildings, Lake's submarine boat, the new kites, the phonograph, Langley's aerodrome, wireless telegraphy, liquid air, and the Roentgen rays—subjects ranging from those whose principles are obvious for every boy, to those which must remain mysteries in his mind; from those which solve practical problems whose chief factors a boy can profitably consider, to those whose practical side is not yet understood; from those which depend upon no new knowledge, but only upon new economic conditions, to those which have startled the scientific world. Mr. Baker has made his book entertaining. He has not loaded it down with information. On the contrary, it must be an inactive-minded boy who is satisfied with what he finds here. The question of dollars and cents is, in most of the chapters, brought to the focus of attention. The purpose seems to be to turn the boy's love of the marvellous to account in order to impress him with conceptions of the great science of economy. Mechanical contrivances, his natural delight, are kept scrupulously out of view. Purely scientific matters are apparently not deemed important enough to call for any great accuracy of statement. Thus, to give one example out of many, the boy is told that heat, light, and electricity are all vibrations of the ether (p. 83); although, in fact, heat is the energy of relative motion of the minute parts of ordinary matter, and is not necessarily vibratory, while a charge of electricity, whatever it is, is certainly not a vibration. It

would have been perfectly possible without making the book any the less entertaining, to have given it a high value for the boy's growing understanding of the scientific points involved in the different inventions, so that he should treasure and cherish it more and more with advancing years. Its thick, glossy paper, almost like Bristol board, suggests that it was intended to be read many times and pondered deeply; but such an expectation will be disappointed. A book after a boy's own heart, therefore, it is not quite, though a boy will be glad enough to get and read it. The illustrations are interesting and not extravagant.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Bangs, J. K. The Enchanted Type-writer. Harpers & Bros.
Benning, H. At Opening Doors. American Tract Society. \$1.
Black, A. Modern Daughters. Chas. Scribner's Sons. \$2.50.
Blok, Prof. P. J. History of the People of the Netherlands. Part 2. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$2.50.
Booth, Maud B. Sleepy-Time Stories. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$1.50.
Capes, B. Our Lady of Darkness. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.50.
Carter, J. H. The Impression Club. Carter & Bro. \$1.25.
Castagnier, G. Contes de la Vie Rustique. Wm. R. Jenkins. 45c.
Castleman, H. The White Beaver. Philadelphia: Henry T. Coates & Co.
Catherwood, Mary H. Mackinac and Lake Stories. Harper & Bros.
Clark, F. H. Outlines of Civics. Macmillan.
Clark, Kate U. Bringing Up Boys. T. Y. Crowell & Co. 50c.
Clark, Mrs. H. A. Father Jerome. American Tract Society. \$1.25.
Clarke, Rev. W. N. Can I Believe in God the Father? Chas. Scribner's Sons. \$1.
Crano, S. Active Service. Frederick A. Stokes Co.
Darling, Mary G. We Four Girls. Boston: Lee & Shepard.
Davis, Capt. C. H. Life of Rear-Admiral Charles Henry Davis. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$3.
Davis, R. H. Soldiers of Fortune. 2 vols. Gallagher, The King's Jackal, Cinderella, The Lion and the Unicorn. Chas. Scribner's Sons. 6 vols. \$8.
Drummond, Prof. H. The City without a Church. T. Y. Crowell & Co. 35c.
Drummond, Prof. H. The Programme of Christianity. T. Y. Crowell & Co. 35c.
Earle, Mrs. O. W. More Pot-Pourri. Macmillan. \$2.

El Capitán Veneno. Edited by J. D. M. Ford. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co. 15c.
Elliot, George. Silas Marner. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$2.
Ellinwood, Rev. F. F. Questions and Phases of Modern Missions. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.50.
Finley, Martha. Elsie in the South. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.25.
Ford, G. Postle Farm. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.25.
Frytag, J. K. Fireproofing of Steel Buildings. London: Chapman & Hall; New York: John Wiley & Sons.
Gaidemar, Ange. Robespierre. From Sardou's Play. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.50.
Geunig, J. F. The Passing of Self. T. Y. Crowell & Co. 35c.
Guinoy, Louise I. The Martyr's Idyl. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.
Hall, A. D. Cuba: Its Past, Present and Future. Street & Smith. \$1.
Hall, T. Fun and Fighting of the Rough-Riders. Frederick A. Stokes Co. 50c.
Hamp, S. F. The Treasure of Mushroom Rock. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$1.50.
Hanson, C. L. Representative Poems of Burns, and Carlyle's Essay on Burns. Boston: Ginn & Co.
Harland, Marion. William Cowper and Charlotte Brontë. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 2 vols. \$3.
Hawthorne, N. The Marble Faun. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 2 vols. \$3.
Henty, G. A. Yule-Tide Yarns. Longmans, Green & Co.
Hocking, J. The Scarlet Woman. George Routledge & Sons.
Holbrook, Florence. Deutscher Hwaatha Primer. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 50c.
Home Study Circle. Edited by Seymour Eaton. Doubleday & McClure. \$1.
Irving, Washington. Rip Van Winkle, and The Legend of Sleepy Hollow. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 2 vols. \$1.75.
Kellogg, Margaret A. Leo Dayne. Boston: J. H. West Co.
Korschelt, Prof. E., and Helder, Prof. K. Text-Book of the Embryology of Invertebrates. London: Swan Sonnenschein & Co.; New York: Macmillan. Vol. 2, \$3; Vol. 3, \$3.25.
Kout, Mary H. A Looker-on in London. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.50.
Lamb, Charles and Mary. Mrs. Leicester's School. London: J. M. Dent & Co.; New York: Macmillan.
Lee, Sidney. Dictionary of National Biography. Vol. LX. Macmillan. \$3.75.
Le Feuvre, Amy. The Carved Cupboard. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.
Legouis, E. Pages Choies des Grands Ecrivains. Shakespeare. Paris: Armand Colin & Cie.
Lemane, J. H. The Hill of Visions, and Other Poems. London: Kegan Paul, Trench, Trubner & Co.
Letters of Sidney Lanier, 1866-1881. Chas. Scribner's Sons.
Lille, Lucy D. Margaret Thorpe's Trial. Dodd, Mead & Co. \$1.25.
Longfellow, H. W. Evangeline. (Cambridge Literature Series.) Boston: H. O. Houghton & Co.
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Matthews, F. The New-Born Cuba. Harper & Bros.
McCluskey, J. P. Favorite Songs and Hymns. Harper & Bros.
McTear, R. O. The Trust Family. Kansas City, Mo.: McCluskey & Co.
Meakin, B. The Moorish Empire. London: Swan Sonnenschein & Co.; New York: Macmillan. \$5.
Merriman, Helen B. Religio Pictoria. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.50.
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Miller, Rev. J. R. Strength and Beauty. T. Y. Crowell & Co. 75c.
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Neuman, Dr. G. Bacteria. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$2.
Newbolt, Henry. Stories from Froissart. Macmillan.
Newton, A. A Dictionary of Birds. New ed. London: Adam & Charles Black. \$5.
Palmer, Rev. A. S. Jacob at Bethel. London: David Nutt.
Parker, W. G. Grant Burton, the Runaway. Boston: Lee & Shepard.
Pheips, Elizabeth S. Loveliness. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.
Rhodes, J. F. History of United States from 1850. Vol. IV. Harper & Bros.
Rogers, F. A Manual of Coaching. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.
Schmidt, M. Klinger. Leipzig: Volhagen & Klasing; New York: Lemcke & Buechner.
Schoenfeld, Prof. H. Schiller's Maria Stuart. Macmillan. 60c.
Seawell, Molly E. The Lively Adventures of Gavin Hamilton. Harper & Bros.
Selections from the Table-Talk of Martin Luther. Edited by Prof. H. Morley. Cassell & Co. 10c.
Seneca on Benefits. (Temple Classics.) London: J. M. Dent & Co.; New York: Macmillan.
Seton-Thompson, E. The Trail of the Sandhill Stag. Chas. Scribner's Sons. \$1.50.
Sharp, Prof. D. Cambridge Natural History. Vol. 6. Insects. Macmillan.
Sharpless, Prof. I. A History of Quaker Government in Pennsylvania. Vol. 2. Philadelphia: T. S. Lench & Co. \$1.50.
Shoemaker, M. M. Quaint Corners of Ancient Empires. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$2.25.
Stevens, G. W. The Tragedy of Dreyfus. Harper & Bros.
Stephens, Prof. H. M. Lectures on Modern European History. Macmillan. \$1.50.
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