### Bennett on a Bat

This is the year when the English povellets are taking a day off. H. G. Wells called "Bealby" "A Holiday"-which it very decidedly was; and now we have Arnold Bennett cavorting round "The City of Pleasure" (George H. Doran, New York). Don't blame it on the war. "Beal-by" assalled the periodical public through Collier's about three weeks before the opening of the European free-for-all; and "The City of Pleasure" has been dug up out of the trunk that Mr. Bennett

owned in the days when he owned very little else. In other words, this gay little volume of thrills and laughter is one of the pots set bolling by the creator of Clayhanger when he vowed he would prefer fame to grubbing along, even if fame meant musing the mere general. It succeeds a lin task, because it has plot and hu-nor. It does a little bit more, because If has also character and a judgment on

If has also character and a judgment on things in general.

Once in a while it has a little judgment on itself. Half the charm of this wild tale of the inventor, creator and head bandmaster of London's more elegant Coney Island and how he escaped murder at the hands of his partner's agod mother, is the quality of railiery that pervades it all. List, for example, to the epillosue on the cat that draph the powoned logue on the cat that drank the personed

Less than three minutes previously he had been a cut full of power, of ro-mance, and of the joy of life, with comfortable views on most things.

Of course, this is really all there is to tell about "The City of Pleasure". Any-body who explained any more about the plot would be bidding for the laurels of the small-minded old entomotogist who stole a dead fly from a blird spider.

The Rediscovered Country Two white men pierce a trackless virgin Two white men pierce a trackiess virgin area of dense forest in German East Africa, where the sound of a gun has never been heard and where no hunter ever before set foot. One of these explorers, Stewart Edward White himself. chronicles the events of this daring trip into practically unknown land in his dary which has been printed in book form as "The Rediscovered Country" (Doubleday, Page & Co., Garden City, L. I.)

encounters with wild beasts, and more than once the reader's heart is made to beat faster, such as when Mr. White's ready gun saved him from death when he was attacked by an infuriated lion. It is a book fraught with interest for the general reader, and containing in its ap-pendices special, valuable information for the hunter and seeker after special

#### Health

When a treatise on health exercises is translated into 21 different languages and has sales that approach a million coples it is not necessary for the amateur physidorsed by physicians in nearly every country on the globe in order to feel sure of the intrinsic value of its contents. This would be a casual criticism by a casual reader of Lieutenant J. P. Muiler's "My System." or, as its sub-thick coplains, "Fifteen Minutes" Work a Day for Health's Sake" (David McKay, Philadel-

The remarkable success of the book is due to the fact that the exercises are devised not for the purpose of developing the muscles alone, but are intended to affect the vital organs. This is rather new. The system alms to promote: 1. The functions of the skin; 2, the action of the lungs; 3, the digestion. It is simply the scientific application of common sense to the requirements of ordinary people. If comprises a series of simple bodily move-ments with massage or friction of the skin with the hands.

The author is not an extremist. He does not believe that diets, or cold baths, or heavy clothing are necessary or healthful. The exercises call for none of these things. The essentials are motion, both and masses all for hotely. bath and massage, all of which, according to the time schedule accompanying the text, can be done in fifteen minutes. It is a tabloid system devised for everybody and especially useful for those who are limited in time. "My System for Ladles" and "My System for Children," as well as "My Breathing System" are companion volumes, not necessary, but desirable.

SOME LITERARY NOTABLES



TONNSON

em. Though the names are not Mawruss and Abe, the people beneath them are ter's entrance means surcease from pain blood relations always, replicas some-times nominibus mutatis. The new fa-miliar personal traits and economic prin-As might be expected, the problem is not solved by Miss Dell any more than it has been solved by the numerous other writers who have tackled it. But as it is ciples of the cloaks and suits trade form most of them, but in one. 'Rudolph, Where Have You Been?' Mr. Glass woven into a well told and extremely readable tale, nobody will be inclined to prospects along a new lead, where the ore seems to assay profitably. It would be agreeable to have some more of these repine. The scenes of the story are England and India, with both of which the author is evidently so familiar that she studies of his race under theatrical confinds little difficulty in making it all seem ditions. In this one story he seems to have as firm a grip on the palaver and ways of 42d street and Broadway as

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# If You're a Soldier

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Austice in her glorious hands, will give King Albert and his valiant people a large share of German territory.

Thus, Germans under the rule of Belgium will at last learn something of honor and humanity.—Sarah Bern-

and men of the line. The author, who is a major in the Medical Corps of the United States Army, in an admirable ex-position of the causes, prevention and treatment of disease such as prevails among men under arms, strikes at the very core of the army's most devastating foe. When it is recalled that in the Span-ish-American War 2504 of the 2910 deaths suffered by the American army were caused by disease, it is manifest that such a thorough, clear and pithy book as Major Ashburn's may be a great factor in bringing about some correction. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to name an intimate phase of the soldier's life which is not dealt with in this work,

Another Anonymous Novel The tide of anonymity is toward flood again. After Basil King puzzled most again. After Basil King puzzled most readers with "The Inner Shrine" came a multitude of books of concealed authorship, concerning which the public betrayed absolutely no curlosity. Then, a season ago, "Home," by George Agnew Chamberlain, reached a considerable success through clever exploiting of the author's anonymity. Ergo, busy typewriters of nameless authors began beating out romances and rival publishers, following the lead of an achieved success, began prating of the marvelous quality of their respective anonymists, each of course, the dinest in anonymity. The latest of them is the covert author of "The Sea of God" (Heart's Interna-

of "The Sea of God" (Heart's Interna-ional Library Company, New York). The publishers are not permitted at present to disclose the name of the au-ther." Why? The author has nothing to be ashamed of: the book is not so bad as that. The publishers certainly have nothing very wonderful in reserve; the book is not good enough for that.

The story is a good craftsmanlike piece of fiction. Characterization of the tenderly reared Southern girl who is adrift upon the "seas of God," is well done. The plot is rather routine, but nicely ed. The style is agreeable But is hardly an exceptional thing about this anonymous romance.

# Thrills for Heroine

In Humdrum Tale

Notwithstanding that the heroine is thrice rescued from peril of death in the first three chapters, "Spray on the Windows" (George H. Doran & Co., New York), must be described as a story of humdrum English life. The author, J. E. Probres, while not duplicating the Buckrose, while not duplicating the galety that appeared in her previous work, has written entertainingly and has covided some excellent character draw-

One rather wishes that the semi-numted house had been made use of in a more conscientious manner and that the old lady who could not come to any decision without astrological aid had been a bit more prominent. Still Anne, the heroine, who finds matrimony has its "fore and againsts," herself is sufficiently remarkable to make the book unusual. Any young woman who would deliber-ntely throw over a man of wealth and minion for a poverty stricken creature with a prison record is bound to appear temarkable in this age and generation, even in humdrum England.

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#### Love Letters of a

Divorced Couple Suppose, for the sake of argument, that your Christian name was Kenneth and that your past tense wife's was Sybil. And suppose once more, that she had obtained a Reno divorce because you didn't take her seriously and she took you too seriously. And then, just for the sake of finishing this series of hypothetical questions, suppose that she wrote an impudent personal letter, telling you of the divorce and wishing you joy with your second wife? What would you do?

second wife? What would you do?
Would you reply in kind? Kenneth did
and thus ensued "Love Letters of a Divorced Couple" (Doubleday, Page & Co.,
Garden City, L. L.), a really entertaining
book. For the sake of record it must be
mentioned that William Farquhar Payson
works the book although why a mentioned

mentioned that William Farquhar Payson wrote the book, although why a mere author should receive credit is not clear—to a reviewer at least.

The letters recorded in the book are delightfully apontaneous. They carry a plot to a fateful conclusion. The correspondence delineates and limns the man and the woman in the case with a clear-ness and certainty of touch unusual in the average ninth best sciler. And, what is more to the point, both ex-husband and ex-wife live up to our expectations.

# "Under Two Flags"

In Modern Guise

Do you remember the days when you devoured "Under Two Flage"-usually behind locked doors, lest mother should discover the offense-and were convinced in your own mind that no other writer of fiction could compare with Ouida? Of course, that was when you were young, for Ouida made her chief appeal to the very young, rather than to the sophisti-sated, who should have read her work. But if you have any lingering traces of the old predilection you will enjoy "The Red Mirage" (Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis). It's "Under Two Flags" all over again; the same Algerian set-ting; the same foreign legion to lend Cigarette, the gay but loving charmer, is the only important character lacking in this modern version, her place being inadequately taken by a very English Englishwoman of uncertain age and still more uncertain past. The work of the author, I. A. R. Wylle,

has much to commend it, though the style is a bit flamboyant, and there is always a tendency to use too much of what Mark Twain called "hifalutia lan-

# for Native American

A gloomy picture of the future of the native American is painted by Honore Wilsie in her latest novel, "Still Jim" (Frederick A. Stokes Company, New York). Mrs. Wilsie cyidently believes that the influx of foreigners is operating to tensor from these who tensor their that the index of foreigners is operating to remove from those who trace their ancestry back to colonial times all the opportunities their stres enjoyed. Of course, one has read all this before in the puses of the Congressional Record, and if "Still Jim" relied for its interest upon the author's outgivings on this pet holdy, it would be a present about a control of the control o would be a pretty dreary affair,

#### Book Gossip

John Trevena is the literary enigma of England. He is not known in the literary circles of his own land; the clubs of London have never seen him. His perconnlity is a profound secret, and the

T ma **JESTER** 

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. . . The Kansas City Star reviews H. G. Wells' recent novel, "Bealby," in rhyme partly as follows:

When H. G. Wells at once departs
With sudden swivel.
From economics, marriage marts,
Fantastic tales of foreign parts.
And social drivel.
Takes leave of realistic arts
And writes sheer frivol.—

It's interesting to see he's done A Boy Eternal. A Boy Eternal.
The chap is a rebellious son
Of servants, and the plot's begun
Mid tasks diurnal
At Shonts he bumps a Peer: no fun—
His luck's lofernal.

For, faith, it would be hard to find
The being bluffer
Than this Lord Chancellor: a kind
Or displied unbending mind
(Hegelian Juffer)
Whose pride teaves him quite unresigned
From granks to suffer.

Which Bealby sees, this name's pronounced with 'al' accented.) And so to keep from being trounced lie dees, and thinks himself denounced, Though they've relented. Though they've relented. Though they we relented. And his face dented.)

Wella's faken tricks quite obsolete
And used them in "Bealby."
And made a tale you cannot heat
(Macmilian's publish it complete).
Should Wella write such another treat
Among his readers, at his feet,
We hope we shall be!

Norman Duncan, author of "Going Down from Jerusalem," is at present in New York busy reading proofs of his new book of travels which will appear in the autumn. Mr. Duncan divides his time-when he is not off on an extended tripbetween Canada and the United States.

# The New Books A list of books received for review, More extensive comment will be made on those whose importance warrants further attention.

rhose unose importance marraits further attention.

PLANS FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN, Edited by Anna M. Liettenhaus. A comprehensive collection of little plays made up from English classics. 252 pages. \$1.25. The Century Company New York.

STILL III. By Honore Willste. A love scory, with a United States Reclamation Service man for here. 260 pages. \$1.25. Fred A. Stokes Company New York.

Transparent Stokes.

Transparent Stokes. pages \$1.25.
ARLY ENGLISH HERO TALES. By Jean-nette Marks. Refold stories for children. po

# Eat and Grow Thin

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name of Trevena is said to be assumed not merely for professional purposes but also to conceal him from a world that once knew him as a writer under another name. "Sleeping Water" (Kennerly) is his latest book, and, like all of his others, a tale of Darimsor.

pages. 50 cents. Marpet & Brothers. New York.

THE LIFE BUILDERG. By Elizabeth da Jeans. A romence on the thems: Which is the more conservative, man or woman! 418 of the principal of the pages of the south american continuous and pages. However, an analysis of the arminements from the point of view of the united States. 218 pages. H. An analysis of the arminements of the point of view of the united States. 218 pages. H. Century Company, New York.

THE WHITE Another force, with Freeling Stone for its wizard and pages. \$1.25. Lippincon, Philadelphia God pages. \$1.25. Lippincon, Philadelphia God pages. \$1.25. Lippincon, Philadelphia Company Philadelphia THE ROAD TOWARDS PAALE. By Charles W. Eliot. A discussion of Ale.E. By Charles W. Eliot. A discussion of the pages. \$1.25. Lippincon, Company of a Southern gri "active for its story of adventure of a Southern gri "active for its story of adventure of a Southern gri "active for its story of adventure of a Southern gri "active for the Bard Grand Ranch Library Company. New York.

STEVE OF THE BARG RANCH. By Margin Belling and Colorado. 25 pages. H. Hearts' and the grants bore. It pages it to do when the grants bore. It pages it to do when the grants bore. It pages. Hearts' a International Library Company. The Colorade St. Hearts' and the grants story. Hearts' a stary company. New York.

THE OCHOROR GAMES FOR MARKED MO. MENTS. Collected by Ruth Belancy. Hearts' and the grants story. Hearts' and the grants story. Hearts' and the grants MENTS. Collected by Ruth Brakely, What to do when the guests boye. 170 pages. H. New York.

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FULL WEEKS IN THE TRINICHES. By Violinias experience in the war as famous strength. St. International Millin Company. Boston. THE TURMOIL. By Rocat Taylorgion. A story of American husiness lies. With rown and thrown in. 349 pages. St. By the Epoon Rivers Anthology. By Edgar Les Pools, New York.

Masters. Postry of unusual quality. 25 pages. \$1.25. Macmilian Company. New York.

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the children of the chil FINDING HIS STRIDE. By John Marcottle A story for boys about business conflict. All pages, \$1.30. D. Appicton & Co. Till ELEMENTS OF MILITARY HYDROX BY P. M. Ashburn. Farecially arranged for officers and men of the line. 151 pages \$1.20. WHO GOES THERE? I telefert W. Chambers, A romanye of the present war. 130 pages \$1.35. D. Applicton & Co. New York. CONFESSIONS OF A LETICS MAN. Abovemous. A frank discussion from perponal data of the things a minister must fight. 353 pages. \$1.50. McBride, Nast Company, New York city.

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