

# XMAS IS NEAR AND HERE ARE BOOKS THAT MAY ANSWER THE GIFT QUESTION

## CATERPILLAR SECRETS DISCLOSED BY FABRE

"The Life of the Caterpillar"  
Records Minutely Observations  
of Homer of Insects

## OTHER GIFT VOLUMES

Joseph Pennell's Etchings of "The Wonder of Work"—Rhead's "Arabian Nights"

THE LIFE OF A CATERPILLAR. By J. Henri Fabre. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.

This is the last collection of the papers of the celebrated entomologist. It was prepared shortly before the death, at an advanced age, of the author of the "Life of the Caterpillar." Those who have marveled at the scientific precision, the instinctive understanding, the philosophy, disclosed in "The Life of the Caterpillar" will find new and new records of caterpillar existence. The papers are sound science and they are good literature. Any one who has the slightest love for nature will do himself an injustice if he does not add to his bookshelf this fascinating narrative of the embryonic lepidopteran.

Fabre had a special "station" for his observations. He selected a site especially adapted for this account of the lives and habits of the neighborhood. The experiments of Cuvier and others had demonstrated that tenable theories as to the biology of the butterfly in its early stages could not be formulated unless the habitat were stimulated. Fabre deceived the worms of the Silk Processionary caterpillars, for instance, and has left in his pair of essays on them a complete life history. He proves for one thing that caterpillars are not intelligent as are, for instance, the resourceful bees and ants, but are governed very strictly by the accumulation of sense of conflict for existence, which we sum up in the word instinct.

There is nothing monotonous in the minuteness of the diary of caterpillar life. On the contrary, the pages are as fascinating as those of a novel.

## The Appeal of Etchings

THE WONDER OF WORK. By Joseph Pennell. J. B. Lippincott, Philadelphia.

Philadelphia, through the house of Lippincott, is responsible for one of the finest gift books of the season. It is a new collection of etchings by Joseph Pennell, all dealing with "The Wonder of Work." In his very suggestive introduction Mr. Pennell writes: "Work today is the greatest thing in the world, and the artist who best records it will be best remembered. Work has always been an inspiration to artists from the time when we were told to earn our bread by the sweat of our brow till now when most of us are trying to forget the command and act like ladies and gentlemen."

It happens that the names of the two artists whose products have been most closely associated with the expression of the work of the world are connected with the volumes that of the author and etcher himself and that of the great Belgian sculptor, Meunier, to whom the volume is most fittingly dedicated as "the prophet and exponent of the wonder of work."

The selection of etchings is amazingly catholic. It includes in time 1831 to 1915, and ranges from Montana to Germany. Some of those from Teutony are particularly interesting at this moment, because

## FACES IN THE LITERARY LIMELIGHT



MARSHALL SAUNDERS  
"BEAUTIFUL JOE"

HARRY LEON WILSON  
"SOMEWHERE IN RED GAP"

RHEAD  
"THE WONDER OF WORK"

ARTHUR GLEASON  
"GOLDEN LIPS"

BERTON BRADLEY  
"SONGS OF THE WORKDAY WORLD"

RUPERT S. HOLLAND  
"SNOW SHOE LODGE"

JOSHUA SLOCUM NOW  
"IS ADMITTEDLY DEAD"

ROBINSON CRUSOE  
"THE ADVENTURES OF CRUSOE"

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## THE ITCHING PALM AND ITS ANALYSIS

Tipping Habit Condemned by W. R. Scott in Dissection of Practice in America

THE ITCHING PALM. A study of the tipping habit in America. By William R. Scott. Penn Publishing Company, Philadelphia.

Mr. Scott tells us that there are 8,000,000 persons in the United States who derive their income in whole or in part from tips, and that they receive between \$200,000,000 and \$300,000,000 a year in this way. He attacks the custom from the economic and moral point of view and reviews the history of legislation to bring it to an end. The anti-tipping laws of such States as have them are given, along with the Massachusetts law, intended to prevent the division of commissions between purchasing and selling agents. Mr. Scott is convinced that tipping should be abolished, as it is undemocratic and demoralizing. He asks that those who agree or disagree with him address him at his home in Paducah, Ky., giving their views. He evidently thinks that he has made a contribution to the discussion of the subject which will lead to a reform of our social customs. He has certainly produced a book which contains much interesting information not to be found elsewhere. Whether it is possible to prevent the giving of tips is not certain.

## Richard Richard

By HUGHES MEARNS

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until—but that's the story. It is a clean book, and may be given to any one who likes thoughtful humor.

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The Penn Publishing Company, Philadelphia

THE PUNY OF ENERGY—this phrase has been aptly applied to Emile Verhaeren, who was killed in Rouen on November 27 while endeavoring to board a train. Professor D. S. Gordon, when in 1914 he presented Verhaeren for his degree at Leeds University in England, spoke of him as the representative poet of Belgium, "born and bred in the heart of Flanders." He was born in 1875 at Saint Amant, on the Escaut, in the neighborhood of Tournai, and received his education from the Jesuits at the College of Saint Barbe in Ghent. There Georges Rodenbach was his schoolfellow and intimate, and a few years later came two other boys equally destined to literary fame, Maurice Maeterlinck and Charles van Lerberghe. Later Verhaeren studied law at the University of Louvain, but literature had already claimed him and he flung himself with energy into his destined career.

Verhaeren's first published volume was "Les Flamandes," and of the poetry Mr. Francis Buckley says: "It was such as would have arrested the attention of the weariest critic. Violent, sensuous, implacably realistic, it was of the order of poetry which can never be denied a hearing." Since then several other volumes of poetry have been published, and the Houghton Mifflin Company expects to publish a posthumous collection of "Love Poems" in the spring and also a volume of his plays.

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