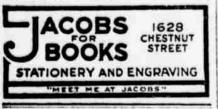
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EVENING LEDGER-PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1917 HIS FAMILY RICHARD HARDING DAVIS'S INTIMATE LETTERS TO velopment of antitoxins has become almost THREE BOOKS OF

ADVENTURES TOLD BY ADVENTURER Richard Harding Davis's Letters to His Family and Friends Are More Interesting Than a Novel

R_PH

rubbing his hands and smaching his line over his own daring exploits. I twist every-thing he save into meaning committing dread-tal and he is instantly explaining he did not see a built fight, but that he walked around the suitcide of the building. I have promised to show him life sith a capital L, and he is afraid as death of me.

In the same letter he has this cotertain-

RICHARD HARDING DAVIS

leep from the ship.

description of Fertunal, which he had

by one many who have apparently observed indexes with ever reach and have abeen who do straid arrs of behaviour and of the hull. There is also a a brown boot with a machinelities a crew of three much is a loss - in ing of the dug. It is a great thing to traveled set. Note of you ever some Yab!

are but samples of the kind of

Portugal is a high hill with a watch town it flying sorral from. It is suparently

at in which the letters abound.

on if as interesting as a novel. Nay, is more interesting for it is an account thinks that actually happened, written an expert in the art of description

VENTURES AND LETTERS OF REPLACE AUDING DAVIS. Solided by his brother parties Weimani Davis, Himstrated New 90, Charles Scribberts Himstrated Scio-

THERE is a time in the life of every boy when he would rather have such a career as that of Richard Harding Davis than he President of the UnRed Sintes. There was more adventure cranimed into There was more adventure cratines him his lifty-three years than comes to the left of one man in a million. He was a suc-cessful newspaper reporter. Before he was twenty-six he wrote a short story that made him famous and was translated into the European languages. He found it on sale in Egypt a few years later. He was managing editor of Harper's Weekly. He wrote a large number of movels and mays managing editor of Harper's Weekly. Its wrote a large number of novels and plays He was a war correspondent on all the continents and on the islands of the sea He described the coronation of the Czar. Re dimed with princes and danced with ladies of noble birth. He was the friend of Presidents and prize fighters, and would call more manage to their first course than call more waiters by their first names than any other man of his generation. If this a not a career to appeal to the imagination youth then we must revise our notion

of youth then we must reveal our interna-about what youth likes. The story of this active and adventurous life has fust been told by Charles Belmint Davis, a burster of Richard Handing. In a volume made up largely of his letters to his family. No one can read the boos and then say that letter writing is a lost the boos and then any that letter writing is a lost and then say that letter writing is a lost art. The letters are obtaining, informal, gesselpy and brilliant. The editor of the volume writes an introductory chapter desorthing the childhood of both horys. They used to act plays on the top floor of their house in South Twenty-first street, in this both are an are allowed by the here and tharles was the utiliain who had to submit There was always to a drubbing. There was always a menti-tain pass to be scaled, consisting of two tables and a chair. The boys had tub in the seminer at Point Fleasant, sloping one night in a tent on a small lefand "while the items and tigers growled at us from the surrounding forest." Charles tells of his brother's early newspaper experience in this city and of how Arthur Briddane hired him as a reporter on the New York Evening Sun. He records the offer of \$100 a week to become an actor, made by Augustin Daiy, and the refusal of managers to let him read his plays to them, because he him read his plays to them, because lo out a meaning into the lines which they

hi not have. Ind not have: Some of best letters in the volume work written during his tour of the Meddler-rahean ports in the winter of 1823. The Rev. Dr. Henry M. Field, editor of the Evangelist, was on the ship: Of him Davis writes to his mother (

Doctor Field is my especial new end he makes me laugh until 1 crs. He is fust like houses Lewis in "A Night Off." and is always

Lost in a Canyon

Frances Little, who won fame by writing "The Lady of the Decoration," has turned her hand to juvenile fiction and has produced an excellent adventure story for boys and girls in "Camp Jolly," It is the record of the experience of some boys who visited the Grand Canyon of the Colorada visited the Grand Canyon of the Colorada with their olders. One of the boys was kidnanped, escaped from his captors and ost the way. The story of his experiences and the means he adopted to coable a searcher to find him will hold the interest of the young reader from beginning to end. Two little girls to whom the story was read by their mother at bedtime could hardly such still the next reading hour came around. wait till the next reading hour came around, they were so eager to learn what was going to happen next.

CAMP JOLLY, Or. the Secret-Finders of the Grand Causen By Frances Little (Planne Caldwell Magnalus), Hildstrated by C. M. Reijya, Nyw York, The Century Company, Reineta.

I MYEDD ALL

appears. A prayer of dedication of the hag is printed on the back of the tills page and there are three or four prayers appropriate to the camp and battlefield in the back of the book. There is space for the owner's name, his rank company, regiment, brigade and division and for an entry of the name of the person to be notified in case of ac-cident. It is such a back as crear safer ident. It is such a book as every sailor and soldier should have.

AMERICAN SOLDIERS AND SAILORS' DIARY, 1918, Arranged and compiled by Mary Parker Converse, New York: E. P. Duiteb & Co.

Timely Book About Rodin The death of Augustus Rodin a week ago as lifted Miss Judith Cladel's study of the man and his art from the ranks of an ordinary book of artistic criticism into dignified memorial volume. Fortunately is so written and so printed that it will It is so written and so printed that it serve this purpose admirably. Miss Cladel is a daughter of Leon Cladel, a friend of the soluptor. She has been familiar with the solution. She has been familiar with and she is qualified by training and special knowledge to write with authority. The The first hundred pages are devoted to the story of the man's life. In the course of it she explains why so many of his figures were

explains why so many of his figures were made as if just emerging from a block of matble. It was because he was impressed by the so-called "unfinished" pieces of Michelangele that he concluded they were delibertially left in the state in which they how appear. He not only followed the ex-ample of the great Italian in this respect, but he attempted also to follow it by aban-dming clambe poses and recorsenting flurres uing classic poses and representing figures in the power which his models assumed authout premeditation. Miss Cladel finds close kindlip between the work of the wo men. The second part of her book is made

up of extracts from the notebook of Rodin. and of extracts from the indicate that the man had a entracts which indicate that the man had a fine gift of liferary expression, a critical mind and a philosophic spirit. The con-cauton is a critical estimate of the sculptor's work with a history of some of his most interact. comous groups and statues. Her admira-tion is likely to be shared by an increasing number of persons as the years go by, for w'thout any doubt Rodin was one of the greatest artists in stone that his generation an produced.

RODEN THE MAN AND HIS ART. WITH Leaves From His Notchesis, Counciled to Justich Court, and translated by S. K. Sear, With introduction by James Hancher, Lina-thated with philametala, New York, The Context's Company, 35

A Soldier Who Didn't Desert

Elchard Harding Davis's last story, "The Maud Diver's War Novel in likely to become The accident that it is his last it was inevitable that Maud Diver should novel about the war. She was been a, where her father was a colonel story in the least of them. The creed of the roldlier and the gentleman finds ex-pression in it. This is its underlying merit. the Indian army. She married the lone of the Roy I Warwickshire regi-ent in England. Her life has been intimately connected with military lince Mr. Davis's death it ims been learned that the story is based of an actual case. The disclosure that it was not the mere "flairs that she understands all their huz-reds. Her stories about India have given is an established place as a novelist of listinction." Unconquered." in which the who did not read it when it appeared in one of the magazines will be interested to know that it tells of a young American after the effect of the war upon different (pers of persons in England, is one of the st noteds that the great crisis has pro-wed. She has in it the spl-radial loval an, who responds as sion as his country. who visited the rooms of a group of Amerban war correspondents and artists in Salonica and asked their assistance in get-ting him out of the city because after seds him, with the approval of his motion and other friends. She has the shacker, of whom she has one of her characters fifteen months in the English numles he had endured all of war that he could stand. He lanned to come home and lecture and wrnabout what he had seen and suffered, was persuaded out of his purso a and

tio and went

At least, he is affinited with a disease called humanitarianism. That would have then as their skine at the cost of everything that haves their skines worth saying. At worst, σ simply shiftle his declars dary for the sake I his cost power (and comfired.) ack to his army camp. William G. Si is their sline worth sorth as the sole in over the sole and the sole of the sole is even the sole of t

She has also be selfish counterfue, as well as a type of the selfish counterfue, as well as a type of the selfish counterfue, as well to whom the war is an aboundation if it interferes at all with their counfort or takes their lowers from them. Her pleture of Rei Allaon, such a woman, is so true that it must have been drawn from life. And her pleture of Shella Melrose, a woman on whom a man can depend to his last

STAGE CRITICISM

What Clayton Hamilton Writes Has in It the Seeds of Long Life

The impermanence of stage critiques is naturally akin to the elusive art of which they treat. Not for an age, but for the moment, does the footlight reviewer pen his "notices." Occasionally sound opinions will survive the ravages of time. Mere brilliancy seldom does. Thus, "Wilhelm Melster? still contains an extremely authoritative riticism of "Hamlet," while the showler tinsel of Bernard Shaw's "Saturday Review" feuilletons has faded with the passing years. Even of those works written within the last quarter of a century very few have still substantial value. The scanty list should, of course, include Augustin Filon's "The English Stage," Brander Matthews's "French Dramatists" and perhaps William Archer's "Playmaking."

Edging toward this exclusive class is one of the three new critical volumes lately come from American publishers. Clayton Hamilton's "Problems of the Playwright" inevitably reflects contemporary viewpoints but some of its dicta should assuredly outlive the period. Mr. Hamilton is a Columbia professor, but no pedant. He writes simply and frankly, intelligently and enthusiastically of the theatre as a practical and highly enjoyable concomitant of civili-He subscribes whole-heartedly to zation. Arthur Jones's ruling to the effect hat the purpose of the drama is, first, to storess life, and, second, to interpret life terms of the theatre.

De stage is no exotic to Mr. Hamilton, has fine catholicity of taste and can rhapsodic concerning Dunsany and Maeterlinck But in his rating, Pinero and Barrie are infinitely superior to Galsworthy. Shaw and the "literary" cult of playwright who airily profess to contenu extremely useful principles of stagecraft. Balance edudication of values is the salient meri of Mr. Hamilton's admirable work. This, o course, does not exempt him from emphati-personal predilections. "Wheever has been much the experience of discussing crit through the experience of discussing effect often with a thorough, perfect and entire Ass." writes Shaw himself in an inspired memory, "has been told that orthologn should abave all things be free from per-sonal feeling." "Problems of the Play-wright" does not mode this flory passance but the which has been by symmetry the whole book is clearly in sympathy the the essen implied in this bit bioseptical satire. Mr. Hamilton like and critics, has his favorite artists. Mr. Hamilton like all ureat name of Pinero is as prevalent in his pages as was reference to King Charles's head in the immerial Mr. Dick's incom-

pleted magnum opus. Envorites indeed are Carl Van Vechtor's dimost exclusive theme in "Interpreters and "I'm afraid." he conferred Interpretations" "that I'm one of the few who take the production of opera seriously. Isn't it ell'y of me." However that may be, the author a at least the precisua faculty of making subject matter interesting. He writes modern music drama informatively and uniffectedly. Perhaps some of his swans are really goese, but his analysis of their art betrays none the less an agreeable ensiasm frequently informed by what now erns to be god logic Calumniating time may appraise their worth in harsher terms. A discriminating 'udgment on prime donn a and idelized male grand opera stars the day is not easy to volce. Mr. Van Vechten believes what he writes. That

Acceleration between what he writes. That much is clear gain Third in this critical trip is George Jean Nathan's "Mr. George Jean Nathan Pre-sents." Moredith called the "Book of Ecolori" "the biggest back in the world." Mr. Nathan revels in that monster tome. He enjoys himself so hugely that the blade of demunciation is dulled. "That man," said Mark Twain of Thomas Balley Aldrich. "would be brilliant in hell !" Can that he PROBLEMS OF THE PLAYRIGHT. By Clay-ton Hamilton, New York: Henry Holt & Co. \$1.60. "How Could You, Jean?" is the frivelous title of a more or less frivelous but wholly delightful little story told by Eleanor Hoyt ALTERPRETERS AND INTERPRETATIONS By Carl van Vechten, New York: Alfred A. Knopf, \$1.59 Brainerd. Mrs. Brainerd, who sometimes turns out such bits of pure realism as fashion articles for women, has this time R. GEORGE JEAN NATHAN PRESENTS hydrores Jean Nathan, New York: Alfred A. Knopf. 41.50. cultivated the field of romanticism and pre-pared a harvest of enjoyment for her read-ers. Of course, the story is impossible Tale of a "Movie" Film and the characters exaggerated, but it is all made to seem plausible—and that's the main thing. If one can bring oneself The movies themselves are sufficiently all made to seem plausible—and that's the main thing. If one can bring oneself to believe that a society girl like Jean would be likely to do as Jean did—hire out as a "cook lady" in order to make her liv-ing—all the rest seems perfectly natural. new as a field for fiction to carry freshness of romance. Think, then, of the superromance of a movie company off in the Egyptian desert, brooding, mysterious, sub-It seems not at all out of the natural order of events that Jean should find employment in the home of two delightfully impractical, elderly cherules: that she should fall in love with the "hired man"; that she should save the "hired man"; millionaire father from the embarrassment of arreet and that tle, with the elusive and esoteric quality of Pharaonic tradition. Burton E. Stevenh son, known hitherto for baffling detective yarns, takes a company of cinema mimes to the desert in "A King of Babyion." The The action takes place chiefly in the shifting sands near a great mausoleum containing from the embarrasement of arrest, and that he should do a score of other amazing, but none the less interesting, things. If the story were less well written, these very the remains of a departed monarch of Upper and Lower Egypt. The purpose is to film a scenario based on Henley's poem things might seem absurdly unreal and childishly simple, but Mrs. Brainerd's art at all times saves the situation. about the cruel King of Babylon and the Christian slave. The movie forces are joined by the party of an archeologist, who HOW COULD YOU, JEAN? By Eleanor Hoyt Brainerd, Garden City: Doubleday, Page & Co. \$1.35. wishes th demonstrate a theory about Gene-sis or Moses or Joseph. Two of the players are imbued with the idea that they are, Charm of National Parks respectively the Assyrian monarch and the slave of the poem. With this material Mr. Stevenson plays adroitly, creating inex-plicable mysteries, which are explained The time is bound to come when Amer-icans seeking to enjoy the beautiful scenery of the world will discover that we have in away by the literal and material mind of the savant. The book is full of excitements the system of national parks in the West scenery far superior to anything that scenery far superior to anytoing that Europe can offer. The Swiss Alps are only a pocket edition of the Rocky Mountains. The Department of the Interior, which has general supervision of the national parks. and believable in its implausibilities. a thriller, but better written than most thrillers. A KING IN RABYLON, By Burton E. Steven son, Boston: Small, Maynard & Co. \$1.35. has done much to attract the attention of the public to their beauties. Robert Sterling

an exact science. Antiseptic surgery has been invented and childbed fever has been banished. Doctor Keen tells in some de-tall how all this was done. There is no better or more satisfactory brief story of medical progress. The book ought to be in the library of every family that seeks to keep abreast of the times.

MEDICAL RESEARCH AND HUMAN WELL-FARE'A Record of Personal Experience Dur-ing a Professional Life of Fifty-seven Years. By William Williams Keen, M. D. Li, D., emerilius professor of aurgery, Jefferson Medi-cal College, Boston: Houghton Mifflin Com-pany. \$1.25.

Smith's New State History

There comes from the Encyclopedia Press hich publishes the Catholic Encyclopedia. which punctanes the Catholic Encyclopedia, a book on "The Commonwealth of Pennsyl-vania," written by Thomas Kilby Smith, with a preface by his brother, Walter George Smith. So much space is given in it to the activities of the Cathole Church and to the State laws affecting religious liberty and the scatter in the state of the control of the state laws affecting religious liberty and the control of church property that it is difficult to escape the conclusion that it is difficult to except the conclusion that the book is primarily intended for use in the parachial schools. This, how-ever, may not be its purpose. In any event, Mr. Smith has produced an interesting volume arranged on an excellent plan. He has not written merely a politicu' and mili-tary history of the State. Instead he has written of its people and Ra institutions. One chapter is devoted to social systems and another to conditions affecting the home; a third to education and the pro-fessions, and a fourth to filterature and proessions, and a fourth to literature and irt. These are matters that are usually off by the general historian to the conideration of specialists. Mr. Smith's com-sents on political conditions, made in the senia on political conditions, made in the obcluding chapter, will be interesting to be informed. He says that "there have seen scandals, severe criticism and political pheavals, and while at times the State has more than the state has the state has parently been in the grip of selfish policlars, their hold has been maintained not irough tyranny or oppression, but by a onservative respect for the will of a free

exple, at least in the essentials of good overament." There are some grave errors i the statistical matter, but these will oubfless be corrected in subsequent edi-ons.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA. By Thomas Killy Smith. Preface by Waiter George Smith. New York: The Encyclopedia Press \$1.

December Magazines

The Christmas number of Scribner's Mag-The Christmas number of Scribner's Mag-azine has for a frontispiece an excellent reproduction in colors of Whistler's "The Music Room." It is the third in the series of reproductions of paintings of the modern school which has appeared. Edith Whatton writes on the French as seen by an Amer-ican, and William Kay Wallace, whose colume of "Greater 1:-19." Is one of the best on the subject contributes an article on modern Italy. There is a short story. "Flatsam and Jetsam," by John Galaworthy, and some hitherto unpublished letters by Bushin written in his old are. The usual fustion written in his old age umber of poems and stories appear. It is a excellent number, but not outer so ornate n its mechanical get-up as Christmas num-ers were before the war.

The outstanding article in the Excember World's Work is on the shiming problem Burton J. Hendrick, who writes R. save that the money, the steel, the enginess and the seamon are prody, but that there is a shortage of workmen in the yards. He shows what is being done to supply this lack. The recent agreement between Amer-ica, and Japan makes. Frederick Morre's discussion of the Japanese measure to be read marticularly timely. It ought to be read metendarly timely. It englis to be read by those who wish to understand the Asiatic tration and the relation of America to it he number contains excellent portraits in the number contains excepted perturbations solves of Vice Admiral Sinus, General Per-shing Major General Siebert and Major General Mann, and, among others, a black-

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Exconguing the formation of the body of the body of the body. Note the front.
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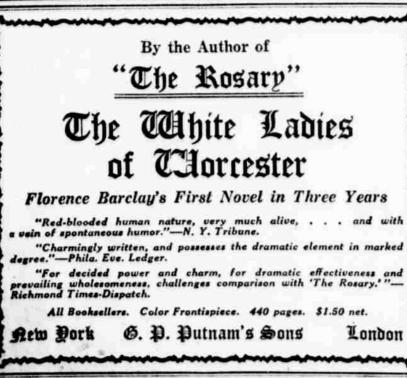
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Philadelphia was once the literary and ublishing center of America. Its enterising publishers are doing what they

s regain some of the city's lost pres-We already have the largest periodical publishing house in the world. The makers of books are slowly but surely bringing their productions into greater prominence. The series of "Hittenhouse prominence. The series of "Elitenhouse Classics" which George W. Jacobs & Co. have just begun to issue will help in the good work. The series hears a distinct-ively Philadelphia name. The trat vol-ume to appear is Blackmore's "Lorna Deone," of the classic character of which there can be no doubt. The end papers of the volume are adorned by a picture of the house in which David Elitenhouse of the house in which David Rittenhouse was born and by a reproduction of the bronze tablet murking it, on which we are told that it stands near the site on

which the first paper nill in America was built by William Rittenhouse in 1650. The book is printed on thin, opaque puper, so that although there are more than 800 pages it is not builty. The type used is of generous size and there is adequate space between the lines. There are eight colored illustrations by Helen Mason Grose in which the spirit of the times and of the characters is admirably times and of the characters is admirably caught and reproduced. They are more than illustrations. They are works of art. If the succeeding volumes keep up the standard of the first they will spread the fame of this city as the producer of a most satisfactory dress for literary wares. CRNA DOONE. A Romance of Exmoor. By R. D. Blackmore. Illustrated by Helen Mason Gross. The Rittenhouse Chassics. Philadel-phils: George W. Jacobs & Co. \$1,50.

What to Give a Soldier

When a diary is more than a diary has been answered by Mary Parker Converse. She has done it by arranging a little pocket cord book for the convenience of soldiers nd sailors that is an incitement to patriot-sm, fortitude and courage. This has been



leisurely journey through the parks made by a Philadelphia family. The narrative is interspersed with Indian fairy tales. The book is just what those parents are seek-ing who wish to enlarge the knowledge of their children while giving them wholesome entertainment. THE TOP OF THE CONTINENT: The Story of a Cheerful Journey Through Our National Parks. By Robert Sterling Yard. New York: Charles Scribner's Sona. The Kaiser Unmasked Whoever wishes to trace the present war to its German beginnings cannot do better than read S. C. Hammer's book on the Kaiser. Mr. Hammer has made a study of European history as illuminated by the sayings and acts of William II since he

sayings and acts of William II since he came to the throne. The meaning of many things which once seemed obscure has been made plain since the war began. The book takes note of these things and puts them in their proper setting. When it was first published abroad—Mr. Hammer is an Englishman—it created a sensation. It is likely to have a permanent place in the The Penn Publishing Company, Philadelphia likely to have a permanent place in the literature of the war.

WILLIAM II. As seen in Contemporary Docu-ments and Judged on Evidence of His Own Speches. By S. C. Hammer, M. Bostoni Hearthics Mittin Company, 1116

the official documents. It is the story of

Dr. Keen's Great Book

Yard, of the National Park Service, has just written a book for young people of all ages, the purpose of which is to supplement Dr. William W. Keen proved in his Colver lectures at Brown University last summer that he possessed the ability, rare in a physician, to talk on technical medical matters in language understandable by lay-men. The lectures, which have just been published in a little volume, summarize the results of medical research for the last ters in language understandable by fifty years. It is a marvelous story. Dis-fifty years. It is a marvelous story. Dis-ease has been conquered until panic fear has become a thing of the past. Yellow fever, the bubonic plague, typhoid, diphtheria and other ailments have had to surrender to the skill of the physician. Bacteriology has been created as a selence and the de-

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