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things present—such are among to prerogatives of youth. Mr. Goldring

less "young" than many of his brothers and he is quite engaging at times in the act of dragging people about. His

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### SMALLER NOVELISTS AND OTHER TRIVIALITIES

Douglas Goldring, a Young Englishman, Has Written an Entertaining Book Less on Matters of Moment Than on Things of the Moment

By FELIX E. SCHELLING

IS A MAN to be judged by what he the cudgels in defense of the chorus gir Is A MAN to be judged by what he reads—at least by what he reads in public? Or is that "a question not to be asked"? In riding about on commuters' trains and others in America and in England, I have noticed a contrast in the nature of the reading of the average passenger. A 5 o'clock suburban in America is a wilderness of the atternoon papers, which flourishes as the leaves of Vallombrosa for four or five stations and then dies down into talk. On trains set for a leaver judged in defense of the chorus girl and justifies the admiration which her other good points—although this last hardly seems the word. Best of all I like the enticing little essay, "Redding on Wines," though tell it not in Volstead. It is agreeable to see the roung active, interested in these things which they like and expressive of this precious moment in which we are now living. Certainty as to all things mundane at the least, sweeping divisions as the leaves of Vallombrosa for four or five stations and then dies down into talk. On trains set for a longer journey our magazines of entertainment bud forth, making a chair car a parterre of color. But rarely does man or woman color. But rarely does man or woman bound book; to open such is to things present—such are among the read a bound book; to open such is to proclaim oneself "a highbrow," which appears to be about as low a state as man can fall to. In England the daily newspapers do not appear to be so commonly read on trains-at least of the better class; and on longer journeys substantial books are often read with apparent assiduity-for your English-man would rather read a dull book than adventure conversation with a stranger. don a few years ago, I counted a round dozen of my fellow passengers reading bound books, and having the curiosity of a Christopher Morley in this particu-lar, I succeeded in ascertaining that most of them were novels, and moreover current novels of the nature and con-tents of which I remain impenitently BEFORE receiving Douglas Gold-

Bring's "Reputations" "to be reviewed." an advance circular came to me which whetted my curiosity. It seems that the book has "created a sentacked and vigorously defended; it has become in consequence that enviable thing. "a brisk seller"; authentic authorship has always its foundations in the seller. And I naturally looked into "Who's Who," wherein are gathered, together with the famous, so many to whom, on inquiry, the owls of oblivion will shortly echo back "Who-Who"! And behold; the name of Golding, unlike that of Abu-ben-Adhere and account of the seller. The seller is the seller in their own West is seenery that is beyond comparison."

John T. Faris, who writes such admirable travel books, in his latest enables stay at-homes to "see America first." It is called "Seeing the Far West" and is predicated on a phrase appearing on the jacket to the effect. "Americans need to wake up to the fact that in their own West is seenery that is beyond comparison."

Mr. Faris has been over the ground the Rockies to the seller. will shortly echo back "Who-Who"! from the Rockies to the Pacific with an Volument And behold; the name of Golding, unlike open eye and a seeing mind. Hence he that of Abu-ben-Adhem, did not lead is able to set forth the scenic beauties dor. the rest; it was not there. An Oxford and the glories of a veritable wonderman, an editor, subeditor and publisher land. His descriptions are graphic in few fold: it affords a broad survey of line and vivid in coloring and they are viving, the author of "a very charming book of poems entitled "Streets," and two maps. supplemented with 113 fine illustrations ing book of poems entitled 'Streets,' '' of books of travel, of a play and thirty-one years of age—and not in "Who's Who'! Our suspicions as to the decayed internal condition of Denmark must be extended to England, particularly when we gleam, as we may from 'Reputations,' that Mr. Golding is an international socialist in constitutional disagreement with Mr. Lloyd George and severely critical of Mr. Wells, when we hear that Mr. Golding is "secretary of the Clarte movements," which so strongly characterizes this half of the new world, and it offers in some measure a detailed study of the region as concerning the history, romance, customs and other phases of the regions through which he means a science of corporate life, whose main factors are topomatical, and ethical or ethical-economic, Mr. Enock, developing this thesis, also takes on the region as concerning the history, romance, customs and other phases of the region as concerns what the author has elsewhere termed a "science of humanity," by which he means a science of corporate life, whose main factors are topomatical, and ethical or ethical-economic, Mr. Enock, developing this thesis, also takes on the region as concerns what the author has elsewhere the reader. He traveled more traveled m wise people will know all about, but as to which a humble reviewer of books only books—must confess to a supreme ignorance. I have not been able to scrape together much more about Mr. Edwards. Mr. Edwards clever brush Goldring; for not being in "Who's and pencil are reaponsible for the first country and content of the promulgation of the by the artist-author. George Wharton always been very pertinent in connection with our South and Central American Goldring; for not being in "Who's and pencil are responsible for the forty full-page plates, of a large size, in sport. From "Reputations," however, I should infer that it is not war, unless

\*\*REPUTATIONS' is a well-written collection of papers, less on matters of moment than on things of the papers. The appropriation of the late. Recollection of papers, less on matters of moment than on things of the moment. The appreciation of the late James Elroy Flecker is timely, interesting and, allowing for its contemporate stands of friendship, just and fair. "Reputations" has in it much wit and an abundance of clever hitting which one might enjoy the better were hearer the ropes. Whether Mr. Goldring has really administered the knockout blow to the reptuations of several of his small novelist victims, it is quite impossible to say at this distance. Due to the above-mentioned American habit of reading the newspapers instead of contemporary minor fiction—in which we are perhaps not much further from years perhaps not much further from the professor of antiquities, has seldom done any thing of more interest than "In Old Pennsylvania Towns." There is hardly a New England hamlet that has survived from pre-revolutionary days that contemporary minor fiction—in which we are perhaps not much further from reality—I do not find myself bristling a with intelligence when I hear of "the author of 'Tarr," nor do I feel synthemather of the author of 'Tarr," nor do I feel synthemather for much further from Mr. Golding that his friend, Mr. D. H. Lawrence—a poet whom I know and admire for much that is sound and vital—is the cold immediately contemporary writer of novels who can be safely accepted. And I am in momod to argue the question. I am willing to accept the pungent criticisms of Messrs. Mackensle. Cannon and Walpole, the three "Georgian novel ists" whom Mr. Goldring singles out for his especial censures, and I find the paper on "Clever Novels" very pleasant reading, like a book of travels into some heartily unimpertant country whither I should never care to go. I suppose that the sundry people who are mawled in this paper—they and their friends—must feel bad about it. But it seems afar off and trivial to one eprived of the joy of living in the purpolation of the private of the live may be and personages and descriptions of literary London, one who. lieus of literary London, one who, a delight, else than third-rate fiction.

A PPARENTLY they take these things quite seriously in England. Were it anywhere else we might be tempted to call it provincial. However, Mr. Goldring has some happy phrases "A fringe of distinguished dull dog-who wrote books": "a deafening silence broken only by the sound of the white rabbits of criticism scuttling to cover";
"A writer is never so much a man and a brother (or a woman and a sister) as when he (or she) is behaving like a and": and the positively brilliant lesignation of Mr. Arnold Bennett as "the Gordon Selfredge of English letters": and if you do not know what that means, kind-hearted reader, it is worth a journey to London to find out. Mr. Goldring has a pleasant little story of an interview with Mr. Watts-Dunton; of a momentary undignified contact with the great George Bernard; and there is delightful anecdote of an Irish lion in letters and his rearing on psycho-analysis before a besy of entranced schoolmarms "convoked from Girton College"; but it is too profune to re-

MR\_GOLDRING hates war, which Mades not seem very remarkable; he apparently also hates most war poetry in which we heartily concern. He explained that, however, of Mr. Sasoon, which that, however of Mr. Sasoon, War. "Jews and the Peace Treaty," the including and sympa war. "Jews and the Peace Treaty," symbolism of his apprint. with somebody, parenthetically, the matter being thus best disposed of, that Swinburne is a minor poet. He does not say it, but we infer that major poets only write in the present. However, he has some creditable likings, ever, he has some creditable likings, of English literature at Harvard Uni-about which he is deprecatory for ever-tain old things Victorian. With the courage of youth he defends certain turies removed, in his "The Traditions of European Literature" (Scribner's) "low fastes," as he calls them, of his of European Literature" (Scribner's).

A booklet about Joseph Hergesheimer, own and of others, among them a liking Professor Wendell allows his style at for detective stories, for books of trave; no time to surrender to the ponderon, one wonders why and for the revue inclinations of the subject, and the return that sort of thing "musical" sult is a work as delightful to read as it comedy). Mr. Goldring even takes up is easy to digest.



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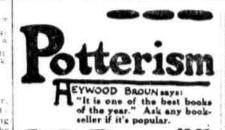
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