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NOTABLE NEW BOOKS ON HISTORY AND LITERATURE

Wells' Latest "Novel" Covers Too Much Ground



H. G. WELLS

H. G. WELLS remarks, in the preface to his "A Short History of the World" (Macmillan Company)

show the manner in which he has handled his characters, a manner which ought to be convincing, but in many instances is far from it.

Whether there is a plot to history is a question upon which men have disputed for centuries.

There is an excuse for Mr. Wells, however, for he is not content with watching the course of events.

Mr. Wells goes through the origin of things in preparation for the advent of his hero. When he gets the earth created, or evolved, to his satisfaction

The early ancestors of his hero were such creatures as do not move in polite society.

But Man at last appears. And Mr. Wells inclines to the belief that he emerged among the banks of the Thames

BEFORE the war he was toying with internationalism, but as soon as England was threatened he forgot all about this amiable and bloodless doctrine

He traces the course of his hero through the prehistoric periods, where he is as little bound by known facts as he was in the period before the world emerged from chaos.

Two of the scenes take place during the Crimean War, and have their settings on, or near, the battlefields.

These books are ideal for holiday gifts. No expense has been spared to make the illustrations and general make-up of each book worthy of the high literary excellence of the text.

ERVINE'S VIEWS

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What Mr. Ervine thinks about these men is worth knowing. He is acquainted with them and can interpret them more accurately than is possible for a writer who knows them only through their books.

I am disinclined to believe that Sygne was a great dramatist. He brought a desirable element of life, earnestness and acerbic beauty into the sticky mess of self-satisfaction and sentimentalism which is known as Irish literature, but not in the least, he brought it in the element of crudity.

Mr. Ervine admires the brilliance of Shaw, but insists that he is one of the greatest contemporary writers, but he says that he needs the corrective of Chesterton, who was born to arise and speak the contrary to whatever remark "the contrary" may say.

There is an excuse for Mr. Wells, however, for he is not content with watching the course of events.

The book is one which those who find pleasure in reading literary criticism will be likely to prize.

THE WISSAHICKON AND ITS MANY CHARMS

The Garden Club of this city is responsible for the publication of a most interesting book about the Wissahickon.

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ST. JOHN G. ERVINE Who has been expressing his opinion freely about his elder contemporaries

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Dr. Williams, who has long been known as a prolific writer of popular books on the achievements of science, has done an excellent work of exhortation as well as inclusion.

"Practical Radio" is a book that can be strongly recommended to all classes of readers, whether technical or non-technical, whether merely casually interested or determined to construct.

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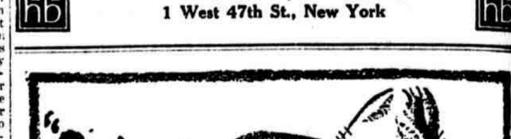
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