

Of and About the Makers of Books.

Notices of Recent Interesting Volumes and Chats Concerning Literary Men and Women.

"AN IMAGINATIVE MAN."

A Study of Mental Derangement. Robert S. Hichens, who achieved some fame and much notoriety by his authorship of "The Green Carnation," a book regarded by Max Nordau and certain others as forming a quite unparagoned example of our literary age...

I.—The Psychomaniac. The Imaginative Man is named Henry Denison, a tall thin man of about thirty-eight, whose eyes were dark brown, bright and restless, and who combined a waxed moustache with a Mohabbist beard and smiled cynically.

II.—The Woman of It. Enid, the wife, an inoffensive, thoroughly feminine, and as the author has drawn her, a not overly individualized woman, strikes the keynote to Denison's falling when, in the scene from which we have just quoted, she replies to some of his pert epigrams about prayer, soul mystery, etc., by saying, "You are always reasoning, Harry. I sometimes fancy..."

III.—The Crazy Interrogatory. The next scene necessary to an understanding of our friend, the psychomaniac, follows close after. He sits in his den, smoking the broad mantelpiece, on which stand, in an unbroken row, the cabinet photographs of a number of women.

IV.—Obviously a Degenerate. A coil falling into the grate snatched the thread of Denison's meditation. "Riddles!" he murmured. "Riddles!" Those who are dumb can never tell their own minds what they are doing, and with a view to what we call conversation, what a masquerade of mania it is!

V.—Curiosity Quenched. Enid and Denison, or more truthfully speaking, playing and owner, sat for Egypt, and when we find them there, the author tells us: Mrs. Denison had never succeeded in losing the fear of her husband's smiling cynicism, which she at the same time considered Godlike and most alarming.

VI.—A New Riddle. Having made her husband's eyes, she was looking into his, and the worst of it is that one can generally find the means of entrance to it much too easily, and often it turns out to be only a barely furnished and respectable looking man, who, as a Christian, makes a good deal of a fuss about his private life, and who, as a man, is not at all to be trusted.

VII.—A Night in Cairo. In one of their debauches, Denison and Aintree made the rounds of Cairo. This is a description of the impression it made on the former: The whole world seemed pulsing with heat and noise, and the air was alive with the wailing and wailing of the eunuchs as they sang in summer time.

VIII.—In a Cairo Dance House. Perhaps the strongest single scene in the book is a description of the interior of a Cairo dance house: At last the bedroom door opened wide, and the Nubian girl glided in, followed by two companions. Her shawl was gone and her bosom was a thin, spangled robe, her hair, the hair of a girl, she stood before him motionless for an instant, she looked like a statue—a statue with wicked eyes full of expression, and an air of indelible beauty.

IX.—A Foregone Conclusion. One day Denison gazes on the Sphinx; and the whole passion of riddle-solving, which had gathered force day by day under the domination of the Sphinx, and the instinct of his being, went out to the great, stone image, which his abnormal imagination soon clothed with the attributes of divinity.

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"I thought you were going to say the lower!" "I will say so," he replied. "And he did so. But the time he felt inclined to seize Enid by her soft white throat and cry: 'You fool, why have you allowed me to understand you?'"

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Gathered in the World of Melody.

Interesting Notes About Famous Musicians at Home and Abroad.

One of the finest parties that has ever left this city will accompany the choir of the First Presbyterian church to Lake Ariel next Wednesday evening. The invited guests, to the number of about 200, will be taken over in special coaches provided by the Erie and Wyoming Valley railroad, leaving Scranton at 5:30, and will return at 11 o'clock.

It is understood that several small parties, with chaperones, have already been arranged, though the services of a chaperone is hardly necessary, as the only party will be all together, and the whole number will be towed by the choir and the Young Men's Christian association glee club will be taken in the barge to the center of the lake, and until 9 o'clock a most pleasing concert will be given.

The Washburn street Presbyterian church has a most excellent quartette, composed of Mrs. B. T. Jayne, soprano; Miss Annie Rose, alto; Edwin Bowen, tenor; and Alfred J. Harber, basso. Mrs. Jayne is the director, and Miss Edith Seawick is the organist.

Miss Elsie W. DeVoor, of New York, who is announced to sing in the Elm Park church, is a most charming contralto. For the past year she has sang noon and evening in the Metropolitan evangelist meeting on Fourteenth street, New York, besides holding a good chorus position.

Professor Rockwell's engagement as organist of the Second Presbyterian church terminates in October, and we understand that there is a strong desire to get him back to the Elm Park church. During the past year, he has been organist and director of the choir, and he has the best music in the city, and there never was the least trouble in the choir.

George B. Carter, organist of the Elm Park church, has accepted a similar position in Beecher's church in Elmira. Mr. Carter is a good organist, a talented pianist, and one who has a habit of telling just what he thinks about other musicians. The latter fact has been the means of making Mr. Carter not a popular among musicians as he otherwise would have been.

The movement for a band and chorus stand for open air concerts has so far progressed that success is now assured. The musicians of the city generally approve of the matter, and the music-loving public may look for some fine music in the near future. Mr. Bauer says that his band will give a concert every alternate Friday evening. John T. Watkins has promised a few concerts by his Choral union, which did such splendid work at Wilkes-Barre.

Tullie Morgan is at work preparing for the formation of a ladies' chorus to number not less than 100 select voices. Branches of the choir will be located in Carbondale, Wilkes-Barre, Pittston, with possibly Stroudsburg and Factoryville. One rehearsal a week will be held in each place, all branch rehearsals will be held on afternoons, and there will be two or three general rehearsals with the main branches of the chorus in this city.

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RAILROAD TIME-TABLES

Table with 2 columns: Station and Time. Includes Central Railroad of New Jersey, Erie and Wyoming Valley, and Delaware and Hudson.

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MUNYON'S HOMEOPATHIC REMEDIES. Advertisement for various medical treatments including Rheumatism Cure, Dyspepsia Cure, and Catarrh Cure.

THE SCRANTON VITRIFIED BRICK & TILE MANUFACTURING CO. Advertisement for brick and tile products.