

Of and About the Makers of Books.

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

A VISIT TO SPOOKDOM.

BLACK SPIRITS AND WHITE: A Book of Ghost Stories. By Ralph Adams Cram. Cloth, green and blue covers. \$1.50. Chicago: Stone & Kimball.

In the telling of a tale of the supernatural much depends upon the teller. Of all writers we have perhaps the greatest power of making the reader feel and thrill with the horrible sensations inspired by uncanonies, and of turning dull print into a life-like chapter of horrors. Mr. Cram is not a poet; nevertheless, he knows how to tell a good story well. In the present excellent little volume the author's narrative power is in evidence.

The initial story concerns a somewhat singular house that once stood at No. 132 Rue M. le Prince, Paris. It belonged for years to a more or less wicked and witch-like lady, a sort of black magic and was a chief priestess of the occult. When this interesting woman died, she willed the property to her nephew, Eugene d'Arche, whom the author introduces as a student friend. Several tenants essayed to occupy the house, but each in turn, after experiences upon which the superstitious neighborhood doubtless elaborated, gave it up as a bad job. It therefore occurred to d'Arche to investigate these reports for himself, and as the story begins, d'Arche, the narrator and a capable novice, with lanterns, plates and weapons, to pass a night in the haunted mansion. Here is a description of three of the rooms, collectively known as "the threshold of hell."

The first apartment was a kind of ante-room, a cube of perhaps two feet each way, without doors, and with no doors except that by which we entered and another to the right. Walls, floor and ceiling were covered with a black magic and brilliant light. The light of our lanterns in a thousand intricate reflections. It was like the inside of an enormous Japanese box, and about an empty. From this antechamber to another room, and here we nearly dropped our lanterns. The room was circular, thirty feet or so in diameter, covered by a hemispherical dome, which was divided into blue, spotted with gold stars, and reaching from floor to floor across the dome stretched a colossal figure in red lacquer of a nude woman, whose body was shining out along the floor on either side, her head touching the limit of the door through which we had entered, her arms forming the sides of the dome, and extended and stretching along the walls until they met the long feet—the most astounding, misshapen, absolutely terrifying thing I think ever saw. From the center of this room a white, like a traditional red's egg of the Arabian Nights. The floor was of red lacquer, and in it was laid a pentagram the size of the room, with an eight-pointed star in the center of this pentagram was a circular disk of black stone, slightly saucer-shaped, with a small ornament in middle. The effect of the room was simply rushing in this gigantic red figure crouched over it all, the staring eyes fixed on one, no matter what his position.

The third room was like the first in dimensions, but instead of being black it was entirely sheathed with plates of brass, walls, ceiling and floor—laminated now, and turning green, but still brilliant under the lantern light. In the middle stood an oblong altar, of porphyry, its longer dimensions on the axis of the suite of rooms and at one end, raised on a range of steps, a pedestal of black basalt.

II.
A Wrestle with the Enemy.
It really is not surprising that in a house with such grisly architecture there should be uncommon experiences. The outcome of the present quest for spooks is this: after a night or two, perhaps necessary first to say that each inquirer took a separate room for the night, under instructions to signal to the others for help if necessary.
Half a hundred times, nearly, I would doze for an instant, only to awake with start, and find my "pale" gone out. Not did the exertion of relighting it run together, I struck my match mechanically, and with the first puff, dropped off again. It was most vexing. I got up and walked around the room. It was most annoying. My cramped position had almost put both my legs to sleep. I could hardly stand. I felt numb as though with cold. There was no longer any sound from the other rooms, nor from within I sank down in my window seat. How dark it was growing! I turned up my lantern. That pipe again, how obstinately it kept going out! and my last match was gone. The lantern, too, was that going out? I lifted my hand to turn it up again. It felt like lead as I lifted it.

MISCELLANEOUS.
THE WEINER PRIMER. For Beginners in Reading. By E. Lillian Taylor, 112 pages, 20 cents. New York: The Werner Co.
A companion volume to the one just noticed, it, too, is a story of stirring adventures, with exciting escapades, ending with virtue and industry rewarded, its advice and idleness properly punished. It may not be artistic literature, but at least it is wholesome and safe.

BOYS' LIFE OF GENERAL GRANT. By Colonel Thomas W. Knox, author of "The Boy Travelers." Illustrated, red cloth, 8vo, 42 pages, \$1.50. New York: The Scribner Co.
Although Colonel Knox calls his boys' life of the hero of Shiloh, Donelson, Vicksburg and Appomattox, it is a biography which will interest all members of the household, and add new reverence to their estimate of the great Union chieftain of the civil war. The life is fluently and even eloquently written, and his vivid pen pictures are well reinforced by admirable half-tone portraits delineating critical scenes in the subject's career as a warrior. This volume would form a most appropriate Christmas present for a bright girl or boy.

seems somehow for the most endearing; and it would have been welcome had Mr. Ellwanger devoted a seventh chapter to that prince of nature's eulogists, R. D. Blackmore, whose latest story of Crocker's Hole, for instance, is in all ways the most satisfying disquisition on trout-fishing ever put into type. But this is aside. For the six studies that the author has given us, let us be duly grateful. He has caught in each case the true spirit of his subject's relations with the out-door world, and has transcribed it for us in liquid prose that charms almost as surely as the originals themselves. No true son of the soil can fail to find himself at once in sympathy with Mr. Ellwanger's commentaries, which, even in midwinter, make one yearn to him to leafy forests or muscled meadows, and to look for mirroring pictures on the margin of some pellucid lake.

MACAIRE: A Melodramatic Farce. By Robert Louis Stevenson and William Ernest Henley. Green cloth, handsomely bound, 48 pages, \$1.00. Chicago: Stone & Kimball.
This dramatization by the greatest modern novelist and a collaborator of the familiar story from the French which has become familiar to American readers through its utilization in the libretto of the opera, "Macaire," was originally published, a few months ago, in the Chap-Book, at which time it was given an extended notice in this department. The text, as readers of that notice will recall in view of the many bright epigrams then culled and quoted from it, is sharp and keen as a Damascus blade, and its literary finish has not recently been surpassed. There is likewise an undercurrent of true humor in the farce such as illumines few of Stevenson's more ambitious prose works. The fact that this version is not available will diminish the enjoyment of those who wish to read it as something of Stevenson's rather than as something by a promiscuous lot of chattering playgoers.

AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS:
Henry Watterson is said to be at work on a life of Lincoln.
Mr. Benson has written a new story, entitled "Adaptations," which will have much to say of art study and art life.
Mrs. Blackmore has nearly completed a new story, "The House of Romance." It will appear as a serial in Blackwood's during the coming year.
Evangeline Dixon has written a novel, the plot and situations of which are drawn from the life of the actress, said to be the precursor of an admirable literary style and is a keen study of character.
M. Hanotaux, an authority on Balzac, is about to issue a book about the author of the "Comedie Humaine." He has in his possession a quantity of documents relating to Balzac's unhappy experience as a printer.
An act of self-defense on the part of T. B. Aldrich is the following letter, which has been sent to the Boston Transcript: "Some verses called 'The Ideal Husband,' and having my name attached to them, the author, after various epistles, has had the newspapers. I beg leave to say, and it gives me great pleasure to say, that I am not the author of those verses."
Commenting on the publication of Ian MacLaren's new book, "The Days of Auld Lang Syne," the Westminster Gazette remarks that it is a book of the kind which has been ordered in advance in England and America. Of the same author's first book, "The Bonnie Blue Bush," over 120,000 copies have already been sold. Clearly, "the literature of the kailyard" is still in the ascendant. We note that Ian MacLaren goes to America on a tour of his own, to visit his friends and see the country.

JUVENILE FICTION.
OLIVER BRIGHT'S SEARCH. Or: The Young Hero's Mission to the North Pole. By Edward Stratemeyer. Cloth, 8vo, Illustrated, \$1.25. New York: The Merrimac Co.
This is a rollicking story for boys, simply yet fascinatingly told; and the lessons of it are good ones, which will incline the reader's mind to high resolution and noble purposes. It could not do to tell the story in detail, for in its plot and adventures are its chief charms; but it may be taken for granted that every wide-awake boy will be interested in it.

NEW POEM BY HOLMES.
Why linger round the sunken wrecks
Where old Arminas found their graves?
Why slumber on the shipwreck's deck,
While foam and clash the angry waves?
Up! when the storm-blast rends the clouds
And whined with rain sweeps the gale,
Young feet must climb the quivering shrouds,
Young hands must reef the bursting sail.
Leave us to fight the tyrant reefs,
Who felt their shackles, feel their scars;
The cheerful sunlight little heeds
The brutes that prowled beneath the stars.
The dawn is here, the gay star shows,
But sin and sorrow still are foes,
That face us in the morning sun,
Who sleeps beyond you banished mourn,
The proudly sorrowing mourner seeks,
The glistening sea and the dark sea,
A light-haired boy with fearless cheeks!
'Tis time this "fallen world" should rise;
Let youth the sacred word begin!
Why nobler task his best capabilities?
Than earth to save and heaven to win?

Superior to Imported Wines.
29 West 42d st., New York, Dec. 11, 1895.
Dear Sir:—I can say emphatically that I like your wines far better than any of the imported wines. Your Chateau, Sherry and Sauterne are very fine and agreeable. Four letters in my favorite. I am your truly,
S. F. Howland.

WORTH ITS WEIGHT IN GOLD
FAMOUS LUNG HEALER
Dr. Alexander's
WHAT IS IT?
It is a medicine carefully put up and compounded, being a direct copy of a favorite prescription by the late Dr. Alexander O'Malley, of Wilkes-Barre Pa., a favored town for over twenty years, and is guaranteed to do all that is claimed for it. It relieves all lung diseases, coughs and bronchitis, averts pneumonia and prevents consumption. It has an action on the sensitive, raw tubes and tissues. Thousands of bottles have been sold, but few families will ever be without it in the house.

Atlantic Refining Co
Manufacturers and Dealers in
ILLUMINATING and LUBRICATING
Lamp Oil, Naphtha and Gasoline of all grades. Axle Grease, kerosene, Fuel Oil, and other products. Also a large line of Patent and Specialty Candles.
We also handle the famous CROWN ACME OIL, the only family safety burning oil in the market.
Wm. Watson, Manager.

THE SCRANTON TRIBUNE-SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 21, 1895.

THEATRICAL NOTES.

Dan McCarthy's new play, "The Greenhorn," will be produced after the holidays. The most successful theatrical production of the season, "The Heart of Maryland," will be produced after the holidays. On Thanksgiving Day it drew \$2,000. Miss George's "Cavan" is recovering from the effects of a surgical operation performed two weeks ago. The operation was to remove a tumor. The trouble dates back to a fall from the stage.

THE POPULARITY OF SLANG.
From the Chicago Record.
When the long-expected American novelist comes to write the comedy of life in the latter part of the nineteenth century he will have to make some special allowance with reference to the speech of his people. It is a fact that slang, always in high favor in America for its terseness and its rough humor, is becoming more popular each year. One consequence of this increasing use of it is that it is entering into the vocabulary of a large number of people who do not use it naturally. This is true, not only of the English-speaking race, but of the French, Italian, and other nations. The English language is becoming more and more a mixture of the vernacular and the learned.

UP TO DATE.
Established 1865. Over 26,000 in Use.
The Genuine
"Pathushee"
Cure
Sick Headache,
Biliousness,
Constipation,
Piles
—AND—
All Liver Disorders.
RADWAY'S PILLS
Purely vegetable, act without pain, eleventh century's secret. Radway's pills assist nature, stimulating to healthy activity the liver, bowels, and other glands, causing the bowels to act in a natural condition without any bad after effects.

Atlantic Refining Co
Manufacturers and Dealers in
ILLUMINATING and LUBRICATING
Lamp Oil, Naphtha and Gasoline of all grades. Axle Grease, kerosene, Fuel Oil, and other products. Also a large line of Patent and Specialty Candles.
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WOMEN ARE GREAT SUFFERERS

They do not get Enough Outdoor Exercise—The Bicycle Will do Them More Good Than Medicine.
The Experience of Two Women who had Led an Indoor Life and the Outcome.
From the Standard-Union, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Few women have had a more miserable existence and lived to tell the tale than Mrs. Anna L. Smith, of 311 Pulaski Avenue, Brooklyn. With all the comforts that money affords, with all the happiness that many loving friends can give, the joy of Mrs. Smith's life was blasted for years by the terrible ravages of sickness. Mrs. Smith's experience is unique because her suffering was not caused by one disease only but by many; until it seemed as though she was a living sacrifice. Doctors were employed, money was spent—the wide world was searched for remedies that would give her the joy of good health. Despite all efforts the clouds of life grew darker until it looked indeed as if death was hovering near. It was in this hour of distress that she heard of the now famous remedy—Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and by their virtues was restored to good health and happiness. The story is most interesting as told to a reporter:

"I was an invalid for years, suffering first with one complaint and then with another. My case was truly that of a compilation of diseases, due to an accident which I received some years ago. The thing which caused me the most discomfort and made me offensive to my family was the worst case of indigestion imaginable. I made all around me miserable by my sufferings, and was most miserable myself. I had the best physician we could find, and occasionally his prescriptions relieved me temporarily. But the pains and misery would all soon return again. I became desperate, and started in to try remedies of which I read. Among them were the Pink Pills. Their appearance captivated me instantly, for I am a great believer in the beautiful, I took the pills and followed out the directions to the letter, and before many days I began to feel like a different woman. For six weeks I took the pills regularly, and I can truthfully say that after I was as well as any one in the family. The change for the better in my condition has caused my relatives and friends to take the pills. We buy them all from the drug store of John Duray, at the corner of De Kalb and Sumner Avenue.

"I assure you it was impossible for me to give my household for three years. Now I visit my kitchen every day, do my own marketing and shopping; in a word, look after everything connected with my home and family."
"Oh, yes, I will keep taking the pills. I take one daily after dinner. Prevention, you know, is better and cheaper than cure. I verily believe one-half of the women who are suffering from the ills which our sex are liable to would be up and well if they could afford to give the Pink Pills a fair trial. I certainly recommend them heartily and feel grateful to the physician who put them on the market."
Mrs. Smith is a woman of some means and standing in the community and, therefore, her testimony will be accepted without question by all thoughtful people.

Advertisement for Radway's Pills, The Genuine Pathushee Pianos, and E. C. Ricker's pianos. Includes text about the benefits of Radway's Pills and details about the piano manufacturers.

SCRANTON DIRECTORY

- Wholesale Dealers And Manufacturers.
- Lackawanna Trust and Safe Deposit Co.
- Traders' National, 234 Lackawanna.
- West Side Bank, 109 N. Main.
- Scranton Savings, 122 Wyoming.
- BEDDING, CARPET CLEANING, ETC.
- The Scranton Bedding Co., Lacka.
- BREWERS.
- Robinson, E. Sons, 43 N. Seventh.
- Robinson, M. A., Cedar, cor. Alder.
- CHINA AND GLASSWARE.
- Rupperecht, Louis, 231 Penn.
- TOYS AND CONFECTIONERY.
- Williams, J. D. & Bro., 214 Lacka.
- FLOUR, FEED AND GRAIN.
- Matthews, C. P. Sons & Co., 31 Lacka.
- The Western Mill Co., 47-48 Lacka.
- PAINTS AND SUPPLIES.
- Jencke & McKee, 336 Spruce.
- MONUMENTAL WORKS.
- Gwens Bros., 215 Adams Avenue.
- MILK, CREAM, BUTTER, ETC.
- Scranton Dairy Co., Penn and Linden.
- ENGINEERS AND BOILERS.
- Dickson Manufacturing Co.
- DRY GOODS, MILLINERY, ETC.
- The Fashion, 208 Lackawanna Avenue.
- PLUMBING AND HEATING.
- Howley, P. F. & Co., 123 Wyoming Ave.
- GROCERS.
- Kelly, T. J. & Co., 14 Lackawanna.
- Megarzel & Connell, Franklin Avenue.
- Porter, John T., 29 and 29a Lackawanna.
- Rice, Levy & Co., 30 Lackawanna.
- HARDWARE.
- Connell, W. P. & Sons, 113 Penn.
- Foot & Shear Co., 119 N. Washington.
- Hunt & Connell Co., 434 Lackawanna.
- FRUITS AND PRODUCE.
- Dale & Stevens, 27 Lackawanna.
- Cleveland, A. S., 14 Lackawanna.
- DRY GOODS.
- Kelly & Healey, 20 Lackawanna.
- Kinley, P. R., 150 Lackawanna.
- MEAT, CURED MEAT, SWEET PIPE.
- Keller, Luther, 815 Lackawanna.
- HARNES & SADDLERY HARDWARE.
- Fritz G. W., 410 Lackawanna.
- Keller & Harris, 117 Penn.
- WINES AND LIQUORS.
- Walsh, Edward J., 22 Lackawanna.
- LEATHER AND FINDINGS.
- Williams, Samuel, 23 Spruce.
- BOOTS AND SHOES.
- Goldsmith Bros., 264 Lackawanna.
- WALL PAPER, ETC.
- Ford, W. M., 129 Penn.
- CANDY MANUFACTURERS.
- Scranton Candy Co., 22 Lackawanna.
- FLOUR, BUTTER, EGGS, ETC.
- The T. H. Watts Co., 11, 725 W. Lacka.
- Babcock, G. J. & Co., 118 Franklin.
- MINE AND MILL SUPPLIES.
- Scranton Supply and Mach. Co., 121 Wyo.
- FURNITURE.
- Hill & Connell, 151 Washington.
- CARRIAGE REPOSITORY.
- Blume, Wm. & Son, 522 Spruce.
- HOTELS.
- Scranton House, near depot.
- MILLINERY & FURNISHING GOODS.
- Brown's Bee Hive, 234 Lacka.
- ATHLETIC GOODS AND BICYCLES.
- Florey, C. M., 222 Wyoming.
- HARDWARE AND PLUMBING.
- Gunter & Forsyth, 27 Penn.
- Cowles, W. C., 197 N. Main.
- WATCHMAKER AND JEWELER.
- Rogers, A. E., 215 Lackawanna.
- BOOTS AND SHOES.
- Goodman's Shoe Store, 422 Lackawanna.
- FURNITURE.
- Barbour's Home Credit House, 425 Lacka.
- CARPETS AND WALL PAPER.
- Ingis, J. Scott, 419 Lackawanna.
- GENERAL MERCHANDISE.
- Olester, N. B., 110 W. Market.
- Jordan, James, Olyphant.
- Barthold, E. J., Olyphant.
- CONTRACTOR AND BUILDER.
- Snook, S. M., Olyphant.
- PAINTS AND WALL PAPER.
- Winkle, J. C., 315 Penn.
- TEA, COFFEE AND SPICE.
- Grand Union Tea Co., 103 S. Main.
- FLORAL DEPARTMENT.
- Clark, G. R. & Co., 201 Washington.
- CATERER.
- Huntington, J. C., 308 N. Washington.
- ROCKERIES.
- Pirie, J. J., 427 Lackawanna.
- UNDERTAKER AND LIVERY.
- Raub, A. R., 425 Spruce.
- DRUGGISTS.
- McGarrath & Thomas, 209 Lackawanna.
- Lorenz, C. H., Lacka. Linden & Wash.
- Davis, G. W., Main and Market.
- Hoes, W. S., Peckville.
- Davies, John J., 106 S. Main.
- CARRIAGES AND HARNES.
- Simwell, V. A., 515 Linden.
- PAWNBROKER.
- Green, Joseph, 107 Lackawanna.
- CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.
- Harding, J. L., 215 Lackawanna.
- BROKER AND JEWELER.
- Radin Bros., 123 Penn.
- DRY GOODS, FANCY GOODS.
- Kresky, E. H. & Co., 114 S. Main.
- CREAMERY.
- Stone Bros., 308 Spruce.
- BICYCLES, GUNS, ETC.
- Parker, E. R., 21 Spruce.
- DINING ROOMS.
- Cary's Dining Rooms, 205 Linden.
- TRUSSES, BATTERIES AND RUBBER GOODS.
- Benjamin & Benjamin, Franklin & Spruce.
- MERCHANT TAILOR.
- Roberts, J. W., 139 N. Main.
- PIANOS AND ORGANS.
- Stelle, J. Lawrence, 225 Spruce.
- DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, SHOES, HARDWARE.
- Mulley, Ambrose, triple stores, Providence.