

AN UNBIASED OPINION.

Cyphers had been visiting Frey for a week. The two friends were both scribblers and one of them—Frey—was a writer.

Then Cyphers would write a little and talk of the "free hand" which journal-ism cultivates.

One of them that he boasted of having dashed off at a sitting—"from the style, you know, finish not laid on laboriously but worked in—part of the thing itself, don't you see? doesn't pass for finish, yet it's there."

Since coming to Ozono, he had learned with some surprise that Frey worked for the Bureau, giving half his available time to the revision and criticism of MSS.

"How refreshing and edifying is the plain truth!" remarked Cyphers. He was smoking and hanging his knees on a corner divan, gazing out of half-closed eyes, like a comfortable cat, at Frey, who slaved before a table beset with MSS., some typed, some written in every sort of hand, masculine, feminine and neuter.

"I've picked it up in the street," he muttered through his pipe-stem, "and an wondering what sort of rot it is."

"The Bureau does these things gracefully, you know," laughed Cyphers to himself.

"It's a crime to print such stuff—"

then he sat down and re-read his story. It struck him as being even worse than he had thought it at Ozono.

For three weeks Cyphers toiled upon his story. He reconstructed it in accordance with the carefully written criticisms laid down in the letter of criticism over which he poured continually.

When a friend once asked him if he had ever sent anything to the Bureau of Criticism of Revisions, he replied: "Yes, a good while ago, and you'd better believe I got an unbiased opinion; it nearly laid me out. Since then I have set up a private bureau of my own."

A SCRANTON WOMAN IN FLORIDA. In a cottage home at the foot of Crescent Orange Grove, and on a bluff overlooking the beautiful Indian River, have spent three very happy months.

As I neared my destination by rail, the tall palmetto trees like giant sentinels warned of the approach to the beautiful and so peculiarly adapted to the culture of the Indian River orange.

THE INDIAN RIVER. It is by all odds the most charming body of water I have seen in Florida. It is parallel with the east coast and but ten miles from the ocean, extending a distance of 100 miles from north to south.

IN AND ABOUT ROCKLEDGE. are cemented walks and drives, on which guests can enjoy the quiet picturesque of the surroundings and breathe in the life-giving air without a thought of business, but let them step out into the simon-pure sand and pursue the even tenor of their way if they can.

Florida sand is most beguiling on the surface. It is beautiful white, but use spade or hoe to get down to bottom facts and lo! the soil is dark and grimy—so will the hand and linen be if not touched with it.

Well, I'll plane it down a bit, then I'll have lunch and be off."

LECTURE TRUSTS.

give a touch of somberness and restful change from the otherwise too great brightness.

With so much to meet the aesthetic side, perhaps you think the substantial is entirely neglected.

WANTS OF THE INNER MAN are beautifully provided for in vegetables from the garden, game from the forest, fish from the river and Chicago beef, if you want it.

FROM BELFAST TO LONDON. Our first Sunday after the ocean voyage was spent in the prosperous city of Belfast. The evening before we had been handed out at a reception presided over by the Lord Mayor.

PACIFIC GROVE, CALIFORNIA. Extracts from Letter of Mrs. H. H. Hollister, Kindly Furnished by Her Husband, Mrs. Anderson.

THE LIGHTHOUSE LAMP. Republished by Request. The winds came howling down from the north, a hungry wolf for prey.

A CHINESE FUNERAL. Today a Chinese funeral passed me and I followed to see the old ceremonies at the grave, the mourners all being barefooted.

THE MONTEREY INDIAN TRAIL. Today I took a walk to Monterey by the old Indian trail through the woods, and it is something to dream about; the great trees and the glimpses of the blue ocean between them.

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the next morning we went out, went to the birthplace, the last home, and the church, under a flagstone of which he

After all were seated in the open conveyance, this Pilgrim found that she had forgotten a most necessary article, an umbrella, so made a drive for "A Winter's Tale."

Next the entrance to Warwick, we lunched at the "Woolpack," then strolled into the Castle, where a nomenclature of conducted and vouchsafed us such information as he saw fit, in return for our English shillings.

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"CORRECT STYLES" WESTPAUL'S.



MABEL'S HAPPY CHRISTMAS. In a little village called Murrayville dwelt a poor family named Playfair.

After the storm ceased Mabel went on her journey, leaving Claude with her return. He saw that it was getting late in the afternoon and he thought Mabel had forgotten him and had gone home without him.

During those years Mabel had been acting as nurse in the home of a distant city and was also going to spend the coming Christmas in Europe with Mrs. Jones' mother.

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