

Literature.

THE BOOK OF GNOMES. By Fred E. Weatherly. (E. P. Dutton & Co.)

TANGLEWOOD TALES. By Nathaniel Hawthorne. pp. 222. (E. P. Dutton & Co.)

A WONDER BOOK FOR GIRLS AND BOYS. By Nathaniel Hawthorne. (E. P. Dutton & Co.)

THE BAD CHILD'S BOOK OF BEASTS. By H. Belloc. (E. P. Dutton & Co.)

NURSERY RHYMES. Illustrated by E. & S. Hardy. (E. P. Dutton & Co.)

NURSERY TALES. By L. L. Weedon. (E. P. Dutton & Co.)

LITTLEROD CASTLE AND OTHER TALES. By Mrs. M. H. Spielman. pp. 377. (E. P. Dutton & Co.)

LA MARE AU DIABLE. By George Sand. pp. 152. (Ginn & Co.)

THE WEB. By Frederick Trevor Hill. pp. 344. (Doubleday, Page & Co.)

THE O'RUDDY. By Stephen Crane. pp. 356. (Frederick A. Stokes Company.)

CHILDREN OF THE ARCTIC. By the Snow Baby and Her Mother. pp. 120. (F. A. Stokes Company.)

THE BOOK OF THE CHILD. Drawings in color by Jessie W. Smith and Elizabeth S. Green; verses by Mabel Humphrey. (F. A. Stokes Company.)

THE BOOK OF THE CAT. Drawings in color by Elizabeth F. Bonsall; verses by Mabel Humphrey. (F. A. Stokes Company.)

THE HUMMING TOP. By Blanche Willis Howard. pp. 53. (F. A. Stokes Company.)

MERRY HEARTS. By Anne Story Allen. pp. 227. (Henry Holt & Co.)

THE THOUGHTLESS THOUGHTS OF CARISABEL. By Isa Carrington Cabell. pp. 345. (Henry Holt & Co.)

Another pastoral romance with Indiana in the foreground is George Barr McCutcheon's "The Sherrods," a story in which the young hero in the earlier chapters becomes a bigamist and a suicide and the villain becomes a hero. Dudley Sherrod was a Pike Township lad when he fell in love with the prettiest and sweetest girl of the village, Justine Van, and when he married her a few years later he had developed

he wrote home, principally to his wife. They, therefore, give us some interesting first-hand information on events which occupied the attention of the newspaper reading public but a few years ago. A book on China cannot be said to be of marked interest today. Pierre Loti's "Last Days of Peking," as the translated story was called, published a year ago, failed to renew general interest in the siege and relief of the foreigners in the Chinese capital, notwithstanding the grace and skill with which this French writer describes the conditions which existed in those stirring days. Mr. Chamberlin's letters, written as they were for the eyes of his family, and collected and published after his untimely death, reveal to us the eventful life of a journalist, who may be sent to any part of the world at short notice, and as such they possess a peculiar charm. Mr. Chamberlin was fortunate in obtaining the friendships of Generals Chaffee and Wilson and Minister Conger and his family. He visited the forbidden temples of the Chinese emperor and watched the developments which followed the occupation of the imperial city by the allied armies. If, incidentally, he obtained a few pieces of valuable loot, he only followed the example set by some of the missionaries. In fact, his comments on the conduct of some of these Christian workers, intended only for the eyes of his wife, are among the most interesting portions of his extensive correspondence. He tells us that often a Chinaman involved in a lawsuit joins the church, whereupon if he is beaten in the lawsuit he is beaten because he is a Christian, and the missionaries take the matter up and force their consul to act, and perhaps the judgment is reversed—and there you are! Our own missionaries, he says, are better liked by the Chinese, because they have established hospitals and schools. The Chinese realize that both of these branches are for their good, and they like it. Later on in his letters Mr. Chamberlin appears indignant at our own missionaries because they are still living in stolen houses, and paying their expenses from the sale of their thefts. "Some of them are still selling stuff that they individually stole, or that was stolen by their so-called Christians, under their personal direction." One of the good stories which this correspondence contains

cutting up curtains and carpets and extra clothing to make sand-bags to strengthen the fortifications. She hasn't been sick a day since the siege, and, in fact, was never in better health in her life! Mr. Chamberlin was finally relieved from duty, but he was in poor health, and stopped at Carlsbad, where he died Aug. 13, 1901. He was the highest type of newspaper man, and his career is an example and inspiration for workers along similar lines. [New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company.]

a talent for art, which made him dissatisfied with farming. One day a Miss Wood, a temporarily delayed passenger on a through train, in wandering about came across "Jud," as the young benedict was called, painting a landscape, with his pretty wife by his side. When the train started Miss Wood had the painting and Jud had \$50 and an ambition fired by the handsome stranger's words of praise. The result was that Sherrod soon packed his grip and started for Chicago, but before he went he had a desperate fight with 'Gene Crawley, the village bully, and a disappointed admirer of the fair Justine. 'Gene was a hard drinker, and he boasted that he would eventually win Sherrod's wife away from her husband, a boast which a rural gossip repeated to Justine. When the troubled girl disclosed the information to "Jud," there was but one outcome, and the contest of fists resulted in a victory for the bully.

Sherrod met with unexpected good luck in Chicago. He obtained a position as artist on a newspaper at once, and was taken in by the "boys." But he neglected to state that he was married, and that was the beginning of his downfall. He sought out the Miss Wood who bought his first painting, and found her in a fashionable part of the city. She grew to love him, not knowing he was married, and he, convincing himself that he could love two, proposed to her and later married her. All this time Justine was living among the simple Hoosiers in Pike Township, with 'Gene Crawley doing little acts of kindness for her, for 'Gene was now a reformed man. Sherrod went on his honeymoon with wife No. 2, and after a trip abroad returned again to Chicago, where Justine and her baby eventually found him living with the former Miss Wood, who had not the shadow of a doubt that she was Sherrod's legal wife. The disclosure of the secret was followed by Sherrod's suicide and other interesting developments which the reader, once started in the book, is sure to follow to the end, notwithstanding his disgust at the action of Sherrod. For a "yellow" novel Mr. McCutcheon handles his materials ingeniously. His Indiana characters are excellent, but his Chicago atmosphere is conventional. We must confess a preference for "Graustark" and "Castle Cranecrow." [New York: Dodd, Mead & Co. Price, \$1.50.]

A pathetic interest is attached to this volume of letters by the late William J. Chamberlin, who represented the New York Sun in China during the Boxer uprising and the international complications which followed. The letters are not those which he sent to the Sun but those which

concerns Miss Conger, the daughter of the United States minister, who was a nervous invalid, unable to walk when the Boxer uprising occurred. She was confined to her bed in the Legation and told to avoid excitement. Along came the fight for life, with horsemeat diet and bullets whistling about, and shells exploding in the house. This nervous woman was one of the nerviest people in the whole siege. She spent her time going about nursing the sick and wounded, or