

*For younger readers.*

Books of the epicene sort which do for small girls and boys as well as a-many.

"Mother Nature's Children" (Ginn) is

written by Mr. Allen Walton Gould with a view to showing how things grow, whether vegetable or animal, the processes of nature being portrayed by abundant illustrations.—"The Story of a Little Beech Tree" (Dutton), by Miss Esther Harlan, is rather the story of little Harold and his surroundings. He is fortunate in making the acquaintance of a Mr. Man, who does not paint his house or wooden fences because he prefers beauty to everything else.—"Farmer Brown and the Birds" (Page) is by Miss Frances Margaret Fox, with illustrations by Miss Etheldred B. Barry. It shows how much a farmer may learn to his own advantage concerning birds.—"Miss Barry illustrates Miss Harriet A. Cheever's "Ted's Little Dear" (Estes), the "little dear" being a King Charles spaniel which is lost—as dogs always are in children's books.—"Miss Gertrude Smith, author of the "Arabella and Araminta" stories of

a year or two ago, prepares "The Booboo Book" (Estes), for which Messrs. C. F. Relyea and Frank T. Merrill furnish the drawings.—Mr. William H. Pott writes some fanciful little sketches of white and colored folks in "Stories from Dreamland" (James Pott & Co.), Mr. George W. Bardwell contributing the pictures. The stories abound in humor and pathos, though evidently the work of no practised hand.—The fifth volume of the "Little Prudy's Children" series, by Miss Sophie May, is called "Jimmy, Lucy, and All" (Lee & Shepard). It is astonishing how this series holds its popularity year after year, proving with every new volume a profound knowledge of the childish heart.—Miss Penn Shirley, "Sophie May's sister," writes and Miss C. Louise Williams illustrates "Boy Donald" (Lee & Shepard), a continuation of "The Happy Six." It has a monkey and a parrot in it, without prejudice to either.—Miss Margaret Sidney continues her former successes with "The Adventures of Joel Pepper" (Lothrop), with pictures by Mr. Sears Gallagher. The harum-scarum lad who lends his name to the story is already an old favorite.—What a youthful college graduate can do in the way of bringing some untamed youngsters under training is told with much spirit and good nature by Miss Mary Leonard in "Half a Dozen Thinking Caps" (Crowell). The book is suggestive.—The author of "Miss Toosey's Mission" has written a book for little children called "Tom's Boy" (Little, Brown, & Co.). Small though it is, it will make a deep impression on the minds of its readers.—Little Rita and Jimmy, the "Two Little Street Singers" (Lee & Shepard) of Mrs. Nora A. M. Roe's new book, have a hard time before they come into their own, and will carry the sympathies of many a small reader with them.—In Miss Evelyn Raymond's "Divided Skates" (Crowell) a little boy and girl open the heart of a nice old lady who has been permitting a poodle to monopolize her affections.—Mrs. Frances Bent Dillingham writes a series of tales for little children around the great feasts of the American year, beginning with the greatest of them all, and calls it "The Christmas-Tree Scholar, a Book of Days" (Crowell). A little moral running through each story does it no harm.—"Ednah and her Brothers" (Houghton) is a series of short household stories, simple and interesting and creditable to their author, Miss Eliza Orne White.—Something in the nature of a genuinely spontaneous American child's garden is evolved by the wit of the heroine of Mrs. Ella Farman Pratt's "The Play Lady" (Crowell), who is left motherless and with a house quite her own but without money. The book has more value than the customary story for children.—Mr. Frank Samuel Child carries on the curious machinery of his last year's "House with Sixty Closets" with "The Little Dreamer's Adventure" (Lee & Shepard), and makes the book fully justify its subtitle of "A Story of Droll Days and Droll Doings." Many pen-and-ink drawings by Mr. C. H. L. Gebfert carry on the story's intention.—Real feeling lies behind the narrative of "Snow White; or, The House in the Wood" (Estes). Miss Laura E. Richards's pen and Mr. Frank T. Merrill's pencil here combine to convey a lesson in humanity of some moment.—Miss Myra Sawyer Hamlin's "Nan's Chicopee Children" (Little, Brown, & Co.) is a continuation of two former books, and opens with the return of the sick and wounded from the Spanish war. It is intended for somewhat older boys and girls, and is bright and filled with con-

versation.—It is eight years since "John Howard Jewett" (who is really Miss Hannah Warner) wrote and Mr. Culmer Barnes illustrated the book to which "More Bunny Stories" (Stokes) is the sequel. So original and innocent a story could not fail to find hundreds of admirers then, and as many may be predicted for its successor now.—Mrs. Lily F. Wesselhoeft has done the greatest possible good with her pretty stories of animals, birds, and children, giving the little human people some comprehension of their fellow beings and their feelings and sympathies.—"Doris and her Dog Rodney" (Little, Brown, & Co.) is a continuation of former successors, with a fine Angora cat named "Christopher Columbus" added for good measure.—"A Little American Girl in India" (Little, Brown, & Co.) is a travel story for quite small children, written by Miss Harriet A. Cheever and illustrated by Mr. H. C. Ireland. It will give a good idea of the Orient to the child, and the long sea voyage to England and thence to Bombay is pleasantly described.