

also, have a Quaker maiden and a French nobleman for lovers, and in both the plot hinges partly upon a secret marriage. The later story opens at Newport, R. I., at the beginning of the Revolution. Rosemary, with her Quaker father, leaves the country for England on an English sailing-vessel, which is captured by a French privateer and the prisoners are taken to Bayonne. There Rosemary becomes acquainted with the Marquis D'Osy, the French officer whom she ultimately marries, and with Rue, a Hebrew maiden who shares with her the honors and the title of the story. Rosemary lives for a time at Paris, cultivating her art of painting, and presently returns with her father to America, where she meets her lover, who has joined the French troops under La Fayette. In the battle of Yorktown he is desperately wounded, but is restored to life and marries Rosemary, who returns with him to France and falls a victim to the violence of the Reign of Terror, a fate which her husband narrowly escapes. "I was told this story," says the author, "by one of their descendants," and it is admirably retold, with picturesque descriptions of colonial life, in this very interesting romance.

READERS of "Appleton's Journal" who have been accustomed to find its pleasantest pages those occupied by the editorial "Table-Talk," will welcome Mr. Bunce's new book, "Bachelor Bluff: His Opinions, Sentiments, and Disputations" (Appleton). It contains many things which have already appeared in the periodical, but so rearranged, elaborated, and combined with fresh material, that the product is substantially new. In the character of "Bachelor Bluff"—who is well described by his name—Mr. Bunce discourses of a great variety of topics, domestic, poetic, æsthetic, and moral; and succeeds in treating them with that happy combination of wisdom and good-humor, of bluntness and geniality, which alone can lift such writing above the level of the platitudinous and commonplace. In his skill and aptness in this vein, Mr. Bunce may be classed with "Ike Marvel" and Mr. Warner; though he resembles either of these as little as they resemble each other.

MR. BOYSEN'S latest volume of fiction ("Queen Titania," Chas. Scribner's Sons) is of his best work. It is composed of three separate stories, all of Norse material. The first is the longest and most elaborate, and has the best characters; "Queen Titania" herself—the fanciful name of a little waif of a girl whom Quintus, a Norwegian, adopts on board a vessel coming to New York, with consequences threatening at one time to be disastrous, but happy in the end—being an altogether original and delightful personage. The second story—"The Mountain's Face"—is poetic in treatment as in subject; and the third—"A Dangerous Virtue"—narrating the experiences of a poor Norwegian who came to this country to become the prey of villains, and finally to die in prison, is full of pathos and strong in satire, and is the most powerful story of the three.

GENUINE love of and friendly intimacy with nature, combined with a meditative and poetic tem-

MR. WARNER'S series of books (his editorially) on "American Men of Letters" (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.) is very successfully inaugurated by his volume on Washington Irving. Mr. Warner has written so much about Irving that some repetition is doubtless unavoidable. That is not, however, an objection to the present volume, in which he has condensed an admirable summary of his previous writings on the subject, and has given, in small compass and with fine literary workmanship, a sketch of Irving's life and work which for general purposes leaves little to be desired in completeness or appreciation. The facts of Irving's career, always interesting, are outlined with Mr. Warner's best touches. In considering the characteristics of Irving's literary genius, and his chance of permanency in our literature, he reflects that "those writers of fiction worthy to be called literary artists will best retain their hold who have faithfully painted the manners of their own time," and wisely infers that the Knickerbocker legend and the romance with which Irving has invested the Hudson are his best title to immortality. The fastidious mechanical appearance of this volume is worthy of note, as being happily in accord with the design and spirit of the series.

THE story of "Rue and Rosemary"—the latest of Osgood's "Round-Robin" novels—strongly suggests a common origin with "A Nameless Nobleman," the first and one of the best of the series. Both stories are slightly historical in basis, and both are located partly in this country and partly in France. Both,

perament, are presumably possessed by Mr. George Milner, an English writer, whose volume on "Country Pleasures" is just issued by Roberts Brothers. The work is "The chronicle of a year, chiefly in a garden," the location being "an ancient parish on the southeastern side of Lancashire." Mr. Milner writes pleasantly and enthusiastically, his purpose being "to convey to the reader as completely as possible the delight which he himself felt" in the objects and sensations described. His work is embellished with well-chosen poetical quotations, appropriate to the particular scenes or phases of country life with which they are connected.

---

MR. TROWBRIDGE's new volume of verse, "A Home Idyl and Other Poems" (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.), contains some twenty pieces, of which all but the first are short, and a number have appeared in magazines. The "Home Idyl" is a very sweet and tender poem, on a theme which forms the subject of Longfellow's "Hanging of the Crane." Such pieces as "Old Man Gram," "The Old Lobsterman," "Filling An Order," "The Indian Camp," illustrate the author's fondness for that half-whimsical, half-serious treatment which has made "The Vagabonds" so popular; though we must say that to us "Twoscore and Ten" is a much more admirable piece of poetry.

---

MRS. BABCOCK's "Household Hints," which is the latest volume in Appleton's series of "Home Books," is substantially a cook-book; but as such it has—presuming the soundness of the recipes and cooking formulas—the advantage of conciseness, simplicity, limited range, and cheapness. In those parts which go beyond the scope of the ordinary cook-book—as in the "Talks about Various Subjects"—it gives some excellent suggestions and hints on familiar but important domestic topics. Like all the works of this series, it is to be heartily commended for its purpose.

---

---