

Book Chat

Hon. Andrew D. White is to write for *The Century* his recollections of his long diplomatic career.

Crypts of the Heart is the title of Mr. James Lane Allen's new story which the Macmillan Co. announces for June.

James Martineau's correspondence with the late Rev. J. H. Allen is to be published in the next volume of the proceedings of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts.

Following an editorial called *The Dramatization Mill*, the April *Literary News* gives a list of forty-eight novels which have suffered dramatization in recent years.

Prof. Edward C. Moore's Lowell Institute lectures given this winter will be published in book form by the Macmillans under the title, *The New Testament in the Christian Church*.

A life of Euclid has just been published. These are the opening sentences: "Who was Euclid? We do not know. No one knows." On this basis a volume has been written in the series of the *World's Epoch Makers*.

The Maryland School for the Blind has published Funk & Wagnalls' Standard Dictionary in point-print, for the use of the blind. It fills eighteen volumes, each the size of one of the regular two-volume editions of the *Unabridged Standard*.

General Wallace must be doubly gratified by Pope Leo's approval of *Ben Hur*. In the first place it is a great compliment, for Pope Leo is a man of fine literary taste and has gone out of his way to give unusual praise; and then because it opens to the book a whole new range of readers with a gratuitous advertisement of the greatest value. But it should be noted that it is an emendated Italian version of the book to which the papal approval has been given.

The publication of Prof. E. A. Park's sermons and addresses by the Pilgrim Press is well supplemented by a reappraisal of him by Rev. J. E. Rankin, D. D., in the April *Bibliotheca Sacra*. A. R. Spofford, the former librarian of Congress, is quoted by Dr. Rankin as saying of Professor Park that he was "the most brilliant man who ever entered the American pulpit," and we have recently seen a letter of Dr. George A. Gordon, in which he refers to the famous sermon by Professor Park on *The Theology of the Intellect and the Theology of the Feelings* as in his opinion the greatest sermon ever preached by an American preacher.

The Library of Congress has just been enriched by a valuable collection of papers written by President Andrew Jackson, long in the possession of the family of Montgomery Blair and presented to the library by his children. The example set by this family is admirable. Many other similar collections might well be transferred to so suitable a custodian. The library recently has acquired the papers of Robert Morris, Salmon P. Chase and Commodore Preble. It also is assembling from the various executive departments in Washington such historical documents as rightly should be under its own roof and grouped with all other Americana.

The death in St. Petersburg of Paul du Chaillu, the African explorer and naturalist, recalls his original discoveries for which he has never received full credit. When he returned from Africa his accounts of the gorilla were discredited by book naturalists of the highest standing, and his stories of the dwarfs passed over as mere travelers' inventions. Time has vindicated his accuracy in both accounts, but in the latter especially his priority of discovery has never been fully recognized. He was a popular lecturer and wrote entertaining books of travel and adventure for boys. He wrote also of Norway and was engaged on a mission of study in the interest of a better understanding of Russia on the part of the American public at the time of his death.