

# Glimpses at New Books

**China and Her People.** By Charles Derby LL. D  
Minister Denby was our representative in China for thirteen years, preceeding Minister Conger, and these are his observations, reminiscences and opinions, formed of the country and the people of all classes of society. He discusses at length both the social and the political phases, and the author interprets not only with discernment, but with sympathetic insight the spirit of the Chinese institutions, lines of thought and motives. Colonel Denby was the peace negotiator, ten years ago, at the end of the Chino-Japanese War, and his accounts of this, and of the Boxer movement are valuable because they are from personal observation. This work is not a superficial and hastily written sketch, but a painstaking and elaborate exposition of a vast subject. It shows the result of much study and observation. It begins briskly and interestingly with a personal account of the Minister's appointment, his arrival in Peking, his impressions of the city, his official work and then opens out into graphic accounts of agriculture, trade, arts, religion, law, and customs. There are descriptions of Court life and personages, and accounts galore of episodes and incidents. The books have many illustrations from photographs, maps and indices. (L. C. Page and Co., 2 vols. 12 mo.)

**A Satire Anthology.** By Carolyn Wells. The popularity of Miss Wells' two previous collections of Parody and Nonsense had the fortunate result of bringing this excellent collection of satirical verse forth. It is a large and discerningly selected compilation of English and American writers from Shakespeare and Raleigh to Kipling and Oliver Herford, and there are selections as well, of translations from Horace, Aristophane and Juvenal, the "Ass's Legacy" of Rutenboenf and the "Ballade of Old Time Ladies" by Villon. The verses are arranged more or less chronologically and include Ben Johnson, Sir John Lucking, Richard Lovelace, Defoe, Prior, Swift, Goldsmith, Burns, Coleridge, Peacock, Bryon, Hood, Thackery, Bayard Taylor, Dr. Holmes, Caverly, W. S. Gilbert, and such modern humorists as Oliver Herford, Gellett, Burgess, R. K. Munkitrech and Chas B Loomis. The satires are of many kinds and qualities, and the subjects, naturally of a wide range. It is of course an enormous subject and Miss Wells has made an eminently satisfactory collection of ironical verse. (Charles Scribner's Sons, 12 mo. 369 pages, \$1.25)

**The Boys' Life of Christ.** By William B Forbush. An unusually vivid and unconventional life-sketch, stripped of the formality of biblical accounts and written so freshly and interestingly that it gives even "grown-up?" a new and refreshing point of view. The author draws freely upon his imagination, putting the conversation and telling the various episodes in modern style. He uses but few paraphrases and quotations from scriptures. It might possibly have been well, since this book is for children, to have merely alluded to the final tragedy, leaving that, with its mysteries for later study. Otherwise, there is a sweetness, simplicity and even a joyous note, that makes this a charming panaroma of picturesque, Oriental villages, flower-sprent fields, and incidents galore. The miracles are touched upon lightly, and give somewhat of a naturalistic interpretation. Jesus' words are paraphrased so that their spiritual meanings are brought out, and their symbolism made clear. His teachings are delightfully simplified, and the entire book is so pleasantly written, so free from formality and so delicately interpreted, that youthful readers will surely be fascinated with its realism. They will see Jesus, not as a veiled and mysterious God, but as a gentle, lovable, human personality, as

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brave as he was gentle, as strong as he was lovable and, with all his humanness, filled with God-like wisdom (Funk and Wagnalls Co., 12 mo., 326 pages, \$1.25)

**The Moon Princess:** By Edith Ogden Harrison. A charming fairy story, full of delicacy, fancifulness and soaring imagination. A Moon Princess, daughter of the Moon Queen, weds a son of the Sun King and with a glittering retinue of a hundred knights, and a hundred maidens, descends the moon-beam ladder to the Earth, where they are entertained by the Earth Queen, the Ocean King, the mermaids, gnomes, and fairies. The Moon Princess is captured by the gnomes of the mountains and held captive underground till rescued by Prince Doñan, her husband. The descriptions of the sea, the sunset, the subterranean and submarine realms are really brilliant, sparkling with color and iridescent beauty. There is a pretty chapter on how two disobedient fairies are changed to mocking birds, and the entire story is graceful and delicate. The book is well illustrated with tinted, full page pictures. (A. C. McClure and Co., 8 mo., 162 pages, \$1.25)

**The Girl With the Green Eyes:** By Clyde Fitch. This play, which has latterly won popularity with theatre goers, and is here tastefully brought out in book form, is a study in jealousy. The first scene is of a wedding reception where the groom learns that one of the bridesmaids has secretly married the bride's scapegrace brother. The bride finds them in earnest talk and the spark of jealousy is kindled. The second scene, in a Roman art gallery is more humorous, though the misunderstanding increases, and the third act, where the bride tries to commit suicide, is strongly dramatic and sensational. The play reads very well in print, though, as it lacks the glamor of the footlights and the acting, it will probably be more enjoyed by those who have seen the play than by those who have not. Uniform with this, is this versatile playwright's satire on social stringings, "The Climbers" (The Macmillan Co., 12 mo. 75 cents.)

**Animal Snapshots:** By Silas A. Lottridge. The writer of this delightful nature book tells the reader of his many gentle adventures, in following the trail of the fox, racoon, opossum, woodchuck, squirrel and field-mouse, and photographing them in their native haunts, and wandering through the fields and woods, catching unaware in their nests, such birds as the woodcock, the robin and the owl, and watching the flight of the crows and the hawks. He succeeds in getting many excellent snapshots, but the chief pleasure in the book is perhaps in the text, which breathes such a love of the out-of-doors, of sweet fellowship with these harmless little denizens of the forest, that it is refreshing as well as informing. The style is anecdotal and there are incidents and descriptions of personal experiences galore (Henry Holt and Co., 12 mo. 338 pages.)