

Chopin. By J. Cuthbert Hadden. London:
J. M. Dent & Co. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co. \$1.25.

The qualifications of Mr. Hadden for writing a life of Chopin are no more apparent now that he has done it than was the need for another book about that much discussed composer. But the Messrs. Dent's pretty little series of "The Master Musicians" would have been incomplete without the inclusion of a volume devoted to the famous Pole, and in its author Frederick J. Crowest, who edits the series, has undoubtedly found a man after his own heart. Mr. Hadden has followed, in the main, such good models as Niecks, Hadow and Huneker, but he nowhere improves upon those models. Practically everything in his book worth saying has been better said before. His own opinions are wonderful things. In setting them forth he is comical and verbose, overloading his pages with quotations of familiar phrases (not always apropos of the subject), stock expressions and "tags" of the cheapest kind, fatuous explanations of Chopin's little jokes, and much moralizing in inane platitudes.