

Mrs. Julia Ward Howe has been known for some years as an agreeable and thoughtful essayist. Identified as she has been with the woman's suffrage movement so largely that many of the general public never think of her in any other connection, it is well that she should remind the world that that supposed reform does not bound and limit her life. She has long been known to a considerable circle of friends as a thoughtful and at times brilliant writer and speaker, and the book just issued, which contains seven of her essays and which bears the title of the first one, *Is Polite Society Polite?* [Lamson, Wolfe & Co. \$1.50] will do much to enliven public appreciation of her conspicuous power. These essays are on a variety of subjects, chiefly literary and social, and they reveal the sincerity as well as the frankness of the author and illustrate the high quality of her literary culture.

Mr. Gamaliel Bradford, Jr.'s, little volume, *Types of American Character* [Macmillan & Co. 75 cents], is little only in form and appearance. Its seven papers on the American Pessimist, Idealist, Epicurean, Philanthropist, Man of Letters, The American Out of Doors, and As a Scholar, contain the conclusions and indicate something of the processes of conscientious and remunerative reflection. A high ideal is kept in view, although certain positions may be open to question. The literary form of the work is exceptionally choice. The author possesses an uncommonly pure and telling style.