

THIS COUNTRY OF OURS, by Benjamin Harrison. ex-President of the United States, attempts to give some notion of the working of our complicated governmental system, which is so well known to most of us in detail that we fail to comprehend its larger relations. But little space is given to the Constitution and the legislative and judicial departments; but there are seven chapters on the rights and duties of the Presidency; the Post-office and the Navy get two chapters each, and the State Department, the Treasury, the Departments of War and Justice, and the Departments of the Interior and of Agriculture one chapter each. The Smithsonian Institution and other independent boards and commissions are treated of in a separate chapter. A full index adds much to the usefulness of the book. (Charles Scribner's Sons, \$1.50.)

LOVE'S MESSAGES. The originality of this little volume, which was compiled and designed by a cousin of Chief Justice Fuller, consists in its clever imitation of the pocket check-books. Each page is detachable and contains a text and an appropriate stanza of poetry, together with a blank for date and signature. The little page is torn out to be sent as a bit of cheer or comfort to absent friends. Nothing more attractive and useful for a friend's writing-desk could be imagined. (T. Y. Crowell & Co., 75 cents.)

FAC-SIMILES OF WATER-COLORS, by Paul de Longpré. The book contains eighteen admirably reproduced examples of this well-known artist's work and is most tastefully bound. (Frederick A. Stokes Co., \$3.00.)

IRISH IDYLLS, by Jane Barlow, is a charmingly written story of Celtic life which will appeal to most people, as it gives a perfect picture of life among the poor of the Connemara bog lands, as well as the legendary lore that abounds in Ireland. It is profusely illustrated by Mr. Clifton Johnson from a fine collection of photographs which he took in the Connemara bog lands for this edition. It is most elaborately got up. The cover is green, with a design of clover leaves. (Dodd, Mead & Co., \$2.00.)

BARBARA, LADY'S MAID AND PEERESS, by Mrs. Alexander. The heroine, Barbara, is the legitimate daughter of a peer, though brought up by her mother's people, who are in very humble circumstances. After serving as maid in the family of which she eventually becomes the head, she wakes up one morning to find that she is a real live baroness with twenty-five thousand a year. She becomes the benefactor of the girl to whom she was maid, and the story proceeds happily along to its ultimate conclusion. (J. B. Lippincott Co., \$1.25.)

DEAD SELVES, by Julia Magruder, is not only a very interesting story, but it takes a high position as a study of character and its development, and the growth of the heroine from the butterfly stage into the earnest, serious woman, ever looking upward to high things, is very realistic. (J. B. Lippincott Co., \$1.00.)

BALLADS OF YANKEE LAND, by William E. Penney. This, the first collected edition of Mr. Penney's poems, are notable for their pleasing choice of subjects and homely pathos and humor, the scenes being laid in New England. Anything more delightful than his account of "That Dear Old-Fashioned Kitchen," "Uncle David's Conversion," "Bread on the Waters," and "Moving to the City," can hardly be imagined, and the dialect used is surprisingly clever. (T. Y. Crowell & Co., \$1.50.)

THE POETICAL WORKS OF MATTHEW ARNOLD. Complete edition, with a biographical introduction by Nathan Haskell Dole. This present edition, which is the most complete ever published, is enriched by the addition of some of Arnold's youthful work, including his prize poems, "Alaric at Rome" and "Cromwell." It is beautifully printed and bound. (T. Y. Crowell & Co., \$1.50.)

SINGING VERSES FOR CHILDREN, words by Miss Coonley, illustrations by Miss A. K. Tyler, music by Eleanor Smith, Jessie L. Gaynor, F. W. Root, and Frank H. Atkinson, is a collection of eighteen songs designed to suit all occasions, that for Christmas being especially pretty. This book is most tastefully illustrated, and songs and music very bright and catchy. (Macmillan & Co., \$2.00.)

DAYS OF JEANNE D'ARC, by Mary Hartwell Catherwood. In this simple romance, in which Mrs. Catherwood has reproduced the scenes in the life of Jeanne d'Arc with much fidelity and picturesque effect, we are shown, not a warlike maid, but a timid, loving, trusting child, deeply religious, and filled with a passionate love of home and country—a love so strong and unselfish that by it she saved France. (The Century Co., \$1.50.)

THE FLAME-FLOWER AND OTHER STORIES, by James F. Sullivan, is a quaint collection of stories illustrated with one hundred pictures by the author.

"The Lost Idea" and "Old Primrose" are two especially amusing stories, and young people will hail this book with delight. (J. B. Lippincott Co., \$1.50.)

THE BIG HORN TREASURE, by John F. Cargill. Mr. Cargill's tale of Rocky Mountain adventure is fresh and wholesome and ought to please all boys. It has twenty full-page illustrations which give all the varied and characteristic scenes in the mining regions of the West. (A. C. McClurg & Co., \$1.25.)

THE LOST GOLD OF THE MONTEZUMAS, by W. O. Stoddard, is a story that will delight the heart of many a lad with its daring adventures among the Indians. There is a fine account of the old Alamo Fort in Texas. Several strong illustrations complete this fascinating story. (J. B. Lippincott Co., \$1.50.)

THE PAINTED DESERT, a story of Northern Arizona, by Kirk Munroe, capitally illustrated by F. H. Lungren, is a book which cannot fail to please all boys, being full of the most exciting and surprising adventures. The hero, Todd Chalmers, gets lost in crossing the desert, and almost dies from hunger and thirst, when fortunately he discovers a hidden valley lying in the interior of one of the high plateaux called Mesas. In this valley he finds an old Quaker and his wife who have lived here for many years, with only an Indian boy for company. Next follows an exciting adventure in a diamond mine, and the book winds up with a glorious account of a trip down the Grand Cañon of the Colorado. (Harper & Bros., \$1.25.)

BEING A BOY, by Charles Dudley Warner, with illustrations by Clifton Johnson. In this book we have a true and faithful picture of a boy's life on a New England farm, and it is written in a quiet, humorous way, which makes it of more than passing interest. The illustrations are very good. The book is well printed. (Houghton, Mifflin & Co., \$2.00.)

R. H. RUSSELL & SONS send us some charming examples of children's books. An Alphabet by William Nicholson, done by his wonderful new process, is particularly interesting. "The Legend of the Dumpies" and "The Autobiography of a Monkey," are highly humorous. "The Blackberries and their Adventures," by Edward W. Kemble, showing the gay doings of a lot of little darkies, will provoke a great deal of merriment among the little ones they are designed to please. Messrs. Russell also send some particularly artistic calendars, the most notable being designed by Remington and Kemble.

THREE OPERETTAS, by Henry C. Bunner. Music by Oscar Weil. The titles are "Three Little Kittens," "Seven Old Ladies of Lavendar Town," and "Bobby Shaftoe." These little operettas are arranged in a very simple and easy style for the little people they are meant to amuse. The music is light and tuneful and readily learned. (Harper & Brothers, \$2.50.)

THE PINK FAIRY BOOK, edited by Andrew Lang, is a delightful book of fairy tales which will please children of all ages. Mr. Lang has given us other such tales which have been extremely popular, and he has a host of admirers among the little folk, whom he most certainly knows how to amuse and entertain. (Longmans, Green & Co., \$2.00.)

THE ROVER'S QUEST, a story of Foam, Fire, and Fight, by Hugh St. Leger, with six illustrations by J. Ayton Symington, is a story which will not only be keenly enjoyed by boys, but also by their elders, for although abounding in incident and adventure, the moral tone throughout is good. (J. B. Lippincott Co., \$1.25.)

AULD LANG SYNE AND OTHER SONGS is a dainty little collection of Scotch songs. It is prettily bound and has numerous illustrations by C. Moore Smith. (Frederick A. Stokes Co., 75 cents.)