Briefer Notice.

THE "Little Prudy" books were read with pleasure by past generations of children, and today new generations may read with equal pleasure Kyzie Dunlee1, the brightest, frankest, breeziest narrative that one could ask. May is a prolific writer of children's books. stories deal so affectionately, so reasoningly with child-growth that the character of each little one comes out like a flower in spring time and refreshes all who read, suggesting to many a parent the means of obtaining their children's obedience through love, instead of through fear.

A Savage of Civilization is a story of hate, love, revenge, and anarchy. John Robarts, a young artisan of good character and ability, is living at home with his mother, whom he believes to be a widow, when he suddenly learns of his illegitimacy, through a scapegrace uncle. Having obtained the name of his father, he leaves his mother and starts to wreak his vengeance on his father, a wealthy manufacturer in a distant city. The young man obtains his revenge, and meets death during the riots at the works. The story is hardly up to the usual publications of the well known house.

Bulletin No. 6 of the State Mining Bureau3 treats of the reduction of gold ores by the milling process, according to the most approved methods practised in California, specifying the various processes in detail, from the ore in bulk to the final production of the gold bar; the whole process being the result of the experience of forty-five years in milling ores. It also furnishes in detail full specifications for building the most improved stamp-mill of today, with illustrations of mill and machinery complete. plain and comprehensive text-book of practical value to the working mill man.

THE famous firm of Raphael Tuck & Sons have brought out a charmingly printed and illustrated edition of The Merry Wives of Windsor.4 The illustrations, both marginal pen drawings

¹Kyzie Dunlee. By Sophie May. Lee & Shepard: Boston: 1895.

²A Savage of Civilization. J. Selwin Tait & Sons: New York. \$1.00.

³California Gold Mill Practises. By Ed. B. Preston, M. E. Bulletin No. 6, California State Mining Bureau: J. J. Crawford, State Mineralogist: 1895.

⁴The Merry Wives of Windsor. By Shakspere. New York, London, and Paris: Raphael Tuck & Sons.

and full page washes in colors, are by J. Fennemore and F. L. Emanuel. The book is edited by Edric Vredenburg. It is just the edition for a birthday or holiday present.

Maribosilla,5 the latest addition to the long array of strictly California literature, is a hard novel to classify. It cannot be laid aside with a contemptuous short notice, nor is it at all clear that it is one of the novels that has come to stay. There is a vein of gossip that runs through the book, albeit well written, that savors of the back stairs and the kitchen, and there is a certain element in the author's treatment of the irrepresible and not uninteresting Mrs. Sanderson that breathes malevolence. The descriptive parts are weli done.

The "Middle Ten" is the title of a work directed against the upper and lower "tens," or the extreme classes of society. The author shows, by the well worn arguments, that the middle class, are the people who really possess the intelligence, industry, and genius, of the world. He justly stigmatizes the men of trusts and monopolies, the "upper ten," as modern pirates, and the uncouth, ignorant "lower ten " as equally dangerous.

On The Point, by Nathan Haskell Dole, is a cleverly written account of the summer outing of an interesting family on the Massachusetts coast. While the plot and love interest is small, the narrative of the every day events, is brightly told and made sufficiently captivating to hold the reader's attention from first to last. The book is one to be read and enjoyed by the many families who have gone out of a big city for a like summer sojourn. It is tastefully bound, handsomely printed and illustrated.

A White Baby, by James Walsh, is one of those stories for publishing which there is no excuse, and for which it is hard to see how there can be any demand. It is a negro story of life in the marl flats of South Carolina. The white baby is a half breed child that is put in the bed of the black wife of the negro preacher. Its discovery brings about a scandal that fairly upsets the four hundred of Negrodom. In the end the rightful mother claims its own and sails out to sea in an open boat. The last heard from them is among the icebergs of the North Pole.

5 Mariposilia. By Mrs. Charles Stewart Daggett. Rand, McNally & Company: Chicago: 1895. 6 The "Middle Ten." By F. F. Murray. World Pub-lishing Company: Titusville, Pa.

7On the Point. By Nathan Haskell Dole. Boston: Joseph Knight Company: 1895.

⁸The White Baby. By James Walsh. New York and London: Frederick A. Stokes Co.: 1895.