



LIFE OF MATTHEW FONTAINE MAURY, U. S. N. and C. S. N. By Diana F. M. Corbin. The name of Commander, or, as he is, perhaps, better known, Lieutenant Maury stands conspicuous among the Americans who have won an international reputation for their scientific attainments. It was Maury's distinction that he was the creator of the science of the physical geography of the sea, and the originator of the Weather Bureau as it now exists. His activity covered the twenty years preceding the war. During the greater part of this time he was superintendent of the National Observatory and Hydrographical Department. A book of his on navigation, and papers on subjects relating to the Navy, gave him considerable

"Wind and Current Charts and Sailing Directions." These charts were the results of eight years of labor—the deductions from thousands of observations by the naval and mercantile marine, undertaken for the purpose of the discovery of the general laws governing the winds and currents of the Atlantic Ocean. Sailing vessels, by following the courses which Lieutenant Maury laid down, saved several weeks' time in voyages to California or China, this time representing, in the aggregate, millions of dollars. This was a service of incalculable value to commerce, and Lieutenant Maury supplemented it with a work on "The Physical Geography of the Sea and Its Meteorology," and with original investigations in many directions. He was a native of Virginia, and casting his lot with his State in the war, had charge



From "The Story of Ohio."

IN CARTER'S CABIN: THE FIRST BALL.

D. Lothrop Company.

prominence, but what lifted him into the position of one of the first scientific men of the age, and brought him praise and honors from every quarter, was the publication of his celebrated

of the submarine torpedo department, a branch of warfare then in its infancy, but one that Mr. Maury did much to develop. He died in 1873. His daughter is the author of this biography,

which gives a vivid picture of the life and character of a man of whom Americans may justly be proud. [Scribner & Welford, 8vo, \$3.75.]

PARTIAL PORTRAITS. By Henry James. No less an authority than Robert Louis Stevenson is quoted to the effect that Mr. James is the most distinguished, as well as the most promising, of American authors. This volume of critical essays goes far to prove the truth of this assertion, for it is a noteworthy contribution to the discussion of literary affairs and reveals the author at his very best. And when Mr. James is at his best he is thoroughly delightful. His aptness of characterization is as remarkable as is the subtlety of his discernment. Contemporary men of letters, and among these the writers of fiction especially, invite from him the most discriminating and sympathetic criticism, and for this reason his papers upon Stevenson, Daudet, and Turgénieff represent the highest point that he has yet touched in this branch of literature. But the novelty of his point of view, the freshness of his thought, and the charm of his style, give a high, and, we think, a permanent value to the remaining contents of the volume, which include essays upon Emerson, Anthony Trollope, George Eliot, Du Maurier, Guy de Maupassant and Miss Woolson. Walter Besant's lecture upon novel-writing supplies Mr. James with a theme for an entertaining paper upon "The Art of Fiction," in which he throws much light upon the animating impulses of the realistic school; and, finally, "Daniel Deronda," in which the critic speaks through the medium of several persons in the form of a general conversation, must be referred to as one of the cleverest things in the volume. [Macmillan, 12mo, \$1.75.]



From "Virginia of Virginia."

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"I—I—I LOOK A AWFUL FOOL, DON'T I?"

THE STORY OF OHIO. By Alexander Black. The second volume in the Story of the States Series is a distinct improvement upon the first. Mr. Black gives a plain, straightforward, reasonably concise account of the settlement and growth of this leader among the Western States, the salient events in its history being brought into just relief, and the style of the work being agreeable. Half of the book, that is, about one hundred and fifty pages, is devoted to a popular sketch of the Mound Builders, to the French explorers, to the Indian wars, and to the romance and hardship of



From "Kelp."

"THEY DASHED AWAY OVER THE WAVES."

D. Lothrop Company.

pioneer life, bringing the story down to the end of the last century. The latter half of the volume deals with the formation and development of the State in the present century. The narrative is necessarily sketchy, but it is not without picturesqueness and dramatic strength, and it affords an excellent opportunity to obtain what may, perhaps, be termed an historical bird's-eye view of one of the more famous of the American commonwealths. The illustrations are popular in character. [D. Lothrop Company, 8vo, \$1.50.]

A LIBRARY OF AMERICAN LITERATURE. Vol. IV. Edited by E. C. Stedman and Ellen M. Hutchinson. The fourth volume of this work contains the first instalment of the Literature of the Republic, covering the period between 1788 and 1820. It was a time when the energies of the ablest men of the country were directed to politics, to the work of placing the infant republic firmly upon its feet, and hence a good deal of space is devoted to extracts from the speeches and writings of Webster, Clay, John Quincy Adams, Alexander Hamilton and Joseph Story, among others. Other aspects of American life, however, are reflected by Joel Barlow, William

Dunlap, Washington Allston, and Eliza Southgate Bowne, from whose writings one gets many suggestive and entertaining glimpses of the social customs of the period and of the beginnings of the native drama and art. There are twelve portraits in the volume, including those of Charles Brockden Brown, Joel Barlow, Abigail Adams Smith, William Dunlap, Henry Clay, Francis S. Key and Washington Allston. The same taste and good judgment which marked the editing of the earlier volumes are noticeable in this. The remaining six volumes will deal with the litera-

ture of the past seventy years. [Charles L. Webster & Co., Vol. IV., 8vo, \$3.00.]

OLIVER CROMWELL. By Frederic Harrison. This addition to the Twelve English Statesmen Series deserves an honorable place in the list of brief biographies. The art of making an adequate and readable, and at the same time a compact account of the life of a man like Cromwell, is not easy of acquirement. The period of his ascendancy was one of strife and turmoil, of civil war and of Parliamentary confusion, and in the hands of a weak biographer the figure of Cromwell would be in danger of losing all strength of outline in the smoke of the conflict. Mr. Harrison, however, has given a portrait of the Protector that brings out in a clear light the commanding characteristics of the man, the general, and the statesman, laying especial emphasis upon the Puritanical zeal which was the underlying motive of his conduct, but which was tempered by a tolerant spirit and by good common sense. Success also has attended his efforts to present a vivid sketch of the times; to describe the various forces with which Cromwell had to deal, and to indicate the measure of his influence upon the English people and upon

English history. The book is written with simple directness, and at times with a nervous energy that well befits the subject. [Macmillan, 12mo, paper, 50 cents.]

CHRONICLES OF BOW STREET POLICE OFFICE. By Percy Fitzgerald. Although the Bow Street Police Office was not formally constituted by act of Parliament until 1792, magistrates had then been dispensing justice there

which had thus been for nearly a century and a half the theatre for many a dramatic, pathetic and humorous scene, was torn down a few years ago, and this fact suggested to Mr. Fitzgerald the desirability of collecting and putting in shape for publication the chronicles of this famous old police court, with its odd characters, including magistrates, officers, "runners," and prisoners. For the magistrates, beginning with Henry Fielding, the



From "The Story of Turkey."

ROCK MONASTERY, ANATOLIA.

G. P. Putnam's Sons.

since the middle of the century, maintaining control at the same time of such police force as the city of London had. The old building,

novelist, were men of such striking characteristics as almost to form a type. They stood between law-abiding property-owners and the

criminal classes, and were, of necessity, men of strong will and of sound sense. Fielding's blind half-brother, Sir John Fielding, succeeded him as magistrate in 1761, and presided for nineteen years. Other men of equally marked individuality succeeded to the post, about whom many diverting stories are told. Mr. Fitzgerald has given also a transcript of the more interesting parts of the records of the court touching the famous cases that its magistrates have heard, even down to the time of the dynamite outrages a few years ago. There is an abundance of material for a picturesque, dramatic, and highly amusing narrative in the odd types of criminals and eccentric individuals who from time to time found their way there. And there is also presented a curious reflex of the manners of the latter half of the eighteenth, and of the early part of the present, century.

police office, and are of much interest. [Scribner & Welford, 2 vols., 8vo, \$7.50.]

POLITICAL ESSAYS. By James Russell Lowell. The last essay in this collection is the famous one that was delivered before the Reform Club of New York, last spring, on "The Place of the Independent in Politics." There are twelve in all, and the others relate to public affairs immediately previous to, during, and for a few years subsequent to, the Civil War. Slavery, the conduct of the war, the vital issues in the Presidential elections, and the problems of the Reconstruction Period, are, in general, the subjects that engaged Mr. Lowell's attention. They recall some of the most exciting and trying times through which the country has passed, and they have an historical interest as representing the views at various crises of a



From "Montezuma's Gold Mines."

THE SLEEP-SONG OF THE MAYAS.

D. Lothrop Company.

How instructive, for example, is the evidence in the cases resulting from brawls in the theatres! Mr. Fitzgerald's work is very readable, and is a valuable memorial of the London that is fast disappearing. The numerous illustrations are reproductions of portraits and of old prints relating to scenes in and around the

man whose patriotism was as broad as his learning was deep, and who spoke for the people of the North with an incisive clearness that left no uncertainty in the mind of any of his readers or hearers. Mr. Lowell's style is so rich with suggestive allusion, he illustrates his thought with such a variety of figures, the



From "In War Times at La Rose Blanche."

D. Lothrop Company.

"JES' YOU KEEP STILL, MARSE TOM!" CRIED MAMMY.

aptness of which is a constant surprise and delight, that it is a pleasure to read him even when he is discoursing of political events of twenty-five or thirty years ago. [Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 12mo, \$1.50.]

CHRISTOPHER WORDSWORTH, BISHOP OF LINCOLN. 1807-1885. By John H. Overton and Elizabeth Wordsworth. To describe thoroughly all the events in which the Bishop of Lincoln took a leading part would practically be to write the history of the Church of England for the last fifty years. The authors of this volume have not undertaken such a huge task. Their purpose, rather, has been to present a portrait which shall give the salient characteristics of the man and indicate in a broad way the nature of his influence and teaching; a life, in other words, that shall supplement the published works of the bishop himself. Yet, so varied were his interests, and in so many directions did his energy extend, that a large volume of over 500 pages is required to present this compact account of his busy career. Two portraits are contained in the volume. The book is written in a simple and agreeable style and is well put together. [Scribner & Welford, 8vo, \$6.40.]

VIRGINIA OF VIRGINIA. By Amélie Rives. The inclination is strong to place this story

first in the list of Miss Rives's prose works. It has a certain simplicity and truth to human nature which much of her writing lacks. The character of the heroine, Virginia Herick, a passionate, warm-hearted "young savage," is drawn with power and with great feeling. Sticklers for a polished style may regard Miss Rives as an interloper in the field of literature, but she has one quality which explains in good part her popularity with thousands of readers and which blinds them to her faults of style—an emotional intensity, the fervor and sincerity of which make themselves felt. The love of Virginia, the old overseer's daughter, for the young Englishman who takes possession of the place, the growth of this passion, and the tragical consequences thereof, with the various side-lights upon Old Dominion plantation life, make a picture so warm in color and so strong and tender in feeling, that one's sympathies are touched. The style, moreover, is more restrained and more artistic—truer, that is, to life—than in some of the author's other work. [Harper, 8vo, \$1.00.]

THE STORY OF TURKEY. By Stanley Lane-Poole. The position of Turkey in European politics is unique, and in order to understand the Turkish people, their rulers, and

the attitude of the other European Powers toward the Sublime Porte, an acquaintance with the outlines of Turkish history is almost necessary. Mr. Stanley Lane-Poole's book meets this need. It does not pretend to be exhaustive, but is rather a popular history, written with a terse, clear style, of one of the most curiously interesting of European countries. Something more than half of the book is devoted to an account of the growth of the Ottoman Empire from the middle of the thirteenth century to and including the reign of Suleyman the Great in the middle of the sixteenth century, when the Turkish power was at its height. Several chapters are then given to the decline of the Empire, the author closing with an outline of Ottoman literature, an analysis of the Government, and a review of recent political events in which Turkey has been a leading figure. The book is excellently written, has many illustrations, and is altogether one of the best of the Story of the Nations Series. [Putnam, 8vo, \$1.50.]
