

## **Briefer Notice**

**³Mr. Holt makes a lone pedestrian trip across Europe from Holland to Italy and tells of it in a**

**²Bill Nye's History of the United States. Philadelphia; The J. B. Lippincott Co. 1894.**

**³Four Centuries After, or How I Discovered Europe. By Rev. Holt, New York. 1893.**

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rather flippant way. Since his trip was on the four hundredth anniversary of Columbus' voyage he claims to reverse the process and discover Europe, so he constantly refers to himself as "the expedition," and refers to "the expedition's leg" and the like. He rather runs his conceit into the earth, but in spite of it records some interesting and some amusing observations.

Mr. Torrey's bird books have been reviewed in the OVERLAND before and always with commendation. His latest, *A Florida Sketch Book*,<sup>1</sup> is no less entertaining and interesting to nature lovers than its predecessors, indeed, rather more so, for he is in comparatively new territory, and adds to his contributions to bird lore many quiet observations of the people and places of Florida. It is pleasant to sit with him on sand bank or by bayou and note the birds that flit by in the pleasant winter weather. Would that some happy chance could bring Mr. Torrey from the northeasters of his beloved Boston, to spend a winter in California, for he would find a far from covered field, so far as published observations of bird life are concerned.

*In Distance and in Dream*,<sup>2</sup> by M. F. Sweetser, forms one of Joseph Knight Company's well known and highly prized "Cozy Corner Series." The story is a study of life after death easily told full of sweetness and pathos. It is without plot, being simply the author's idea of what would take place at the parting of a loving wife and husband by death. He maintains that earthly love reaches beyond the grave and that we shall know each other in the hereafter. The story can be read in half an hour, is printed in good type, nicely illustrated and neatly bound. It is just the book for a cozy corner and solitude.

On the table by the side of the pipe, the tobacco bowl and the cigar should lay Mr. Joseph Knight's quaint little collection of selected poems in praise of the "weed"—*Pipe and Pouch*<sup>3</sup>—*The Smoker's Own Book of Poetry*. Within the space of 150 pages we find almost as many poems gathered from all sources. The author says in his introduction: "A vast amount has been written in praise of tobacco, much of it commonplace or lacking in poetic quality. While some of the verse here gathered is an obvious echo, or passes into

unmistakable parody, it has been the aim of the writer to maintain, as far as possible, a high standard and include only the best." The book, as all of the publisher's works, is handsomely bound and printed.

*The Abraham Lincoln Myth*<sup>4</sup> is a skit at the higher criticism, supposed to be written in A. D. 3663. It proves by trains of reasoning supposed to be similar to the Biblical criticism of the liberals of to-day that no such person as Abraham Lincoln ever lived. The idea is rather clever, but it is not worked up in a scholarly enough manner to make it truly effective.

<sup>1</sup>*A Florida Sketch Book*. By Bradford Torrey. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1894.

<sup>2</sup>*In Distance and in Dream*. By M. F. Sweetser. Boston: Joseph Knight Company. 1896.

<sup>3</sup>*Pipe and Pouch*. By Joseph Knight. Boston: Joseph Knight & Co.