

## **The Story of Early Britain.**

This latest contribution to the "Stories of the Nations" series is as entertaining as it is instructive. Mr. Alfred J. Church begins his narrative with that dim dawning of history before the Christian era, when the wild little group of islands in the English Channel lay wrapped in thick fogs of obscurity, through which, at century-long intervals, outsiders caught glimpses of the life within. Strange savage shapes of men painted blue, with long, flowing hair; blood and warfare a matter of every day; a community of wives; a ferocious priesthood, which exacted human sacrifices; superstition, squalor, the undisputed supremacy of the strongest—such things were seen in these infrequent glimpses.

The early Briton is not an ancestor to be particularly proud of. It required the strangest admixture of bloods and races, the fierce heat of civil and foreign wars, hard blows continued for many centuries, to weld and forge from this rude barbarian the modern Englishman. That finished product was barely begun at the Norman Conquest, with which epoch Mr. Church's narrative ends; but the story of the primordial germ from which he sprang is of deep interest, and all English-speaking boys should read it. —G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$1.50.

## **Mountaineering in Colorado.**

Fortunate "Appalachians," that can send out such a beautiful volume as this, in its decorated cover in shades of olive, its luxurious paper, and attractive pictures of mountain peaks, lonely gorges, snow fields and glaciers, from photographs by an adventurous explorer who dared any danger to secure them! The author is Frederick H. Chapin, and the illustrations are, with few exceptions, directly from negatives taken by himself, reproduced by the Boston Photogravure Company. Mr. Chapin, with a single companion, or several, all members of the Appalachian Mountain Club, sought out cañons heretofore unvisited, settled some questions of interest to scientific men, and penetrated to regions which will at some distant day be places of resort for venturesome tourists. His exhilaration is contagious; to stand on mountain tops and look off over leagues of unexplored territory seems a thing greatly to be desired. The captivating pictures intensify the feeling; any one who has joy in the wild and grand, who is smitten with the genuine mountain passion, will return to them again and again with delight. The value of this little volume is enhanced by the list of plants, prepared by the wife of the author. — Boston: Appalachian Mountain Club.