

well-known vaudeville kind, who say "Aw!" and converse in stilted and cutting periods. Later the story shifts to the plains of Kansas, with which, and the prevalent cowboy, the author is more at home than in the effete and civilized regions of Europe.

The Rescue, by Anne Douglas Sedgwick. pp. 243. Century Co. \$1.50.

Strength, subtlety and delicacy of character-drawing, make this book notable among the novels of the year. Miss Sedgwick has drawn out of an unusual—at the first thought almost an incredible—situation an inevitable and soul-moving drama. The scene is in Paris—



ANNE DOUGLAS SEDGWICK

that trap for the American story writer—but the narrative moves with assured step and keeps our interest awake in the growth and self-revelation of the four characters who make the actors in the tale.

Bread and Wine, by Maud Egerton King. pp. 191. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. \$1.25.

There is a wholesome simplicity and sweetness in this tale of peasant life in the Austrian Tyrol which give it charm. The heroine is a middle-aged woman, a wife and mother; and the love and unselfish sacrifice which win her happiness in the end have in them the beauty of soul which outlasts and outwears mere physical attraction.

FICTION

At Sunwich Port, by W. W. Jacobs. pp. 351. Chas. Scribner's Sons. \$1.50.

The lover of comedy will enjoy this story, and all the more if he gives it the second reading which it well deserves for skill of plot and graphic character-drawing. The scene is an English coast town and there is plenty of salt air blowing. Mr. Jacobs is easily our best writer of humor of this type and deserves well of us for many laughs. He has vindicated his right to produce more ambitious work than the short stories which have made his reputation.

Bylow Hill, by George W. Cable. pp. 215. Chas. Scribner's Sons. \$1.25.

Descriptions of New England village and country life show the delicate and painstaking work in which Mr. Cable has become distinguished as an artist in literature. But the story is disappointing. One fails to get really acquainted with the persons who are made responsible for making it, and they seem to be unfinished and incomplete. The unreasonable jealousy of a husband, who is a minister, ends with his death, which might well have occurred sooner; and the wife marries at last her real and honorable lover. Mr. Cable's best field is in the South rather than in New England so far as studies of character are concerned.

Buell Hampton, by Willis George Emerson. pp. 415. Forbes & Co. \$1.50.

This novel borders dangerously on the quality of what is known in England as "shilling shocker." It opens in a hotel on the Lake of Geneva, where the guests are served by colored boys of the "golly, massa," variety. Various scions of the British aristocracy appear whose speech and manners are those of the