

Yes, do send me a book. . . Not a bargain book, bought from a haberdasher, but a beautiful book, a book to caress—peculiar, distinctive, individual: a book that hath first caught your eye and then pleased your fancy, written by an author with a tender whim, all right out of his heart. We will read it together in the gloaming, and when the gathering dusk doth blur the page, we'll sit with hearts too full for speech and think it over.

Dorothy Wordsworth in a letter to Coleridge.

ESPECIALLY HAPPY selections for the friend who has traveled are Edith Wharton's "Italian Villas and Their Gardens" and James Eugene Farmer's "Versailles and the Court Under Louis XIV." Most of the fifty illustrations that beautify "Italian Gardens" are reproduced in the colors of the original, paintings by Maxfield Parrish. Exquisite in make-up, too, is this new record of Versailles, bound in rich blue cloth, with seventy illustrations in tint. And for the stay-at-home friend these are books to open up

wonderful new worlds. A book less pretentious in form but rich in meat is Charles H. Caffin's "How to Study Pictures," just what the title would indicate. The friend who loves pictures could have no more acceptable gift.

IS THERE some one to be remembered to whom a book of fiction would most appeal? The rich and unusual humor of "The Fugitive Blacksmith" commends it strongly. Give it to any man, and find how hard a time he has to snatch his own reading from the importunities of family and friends. "Plain Mary Smith" is full of riotous fun; "Jules of the Great Heart" is fresh and strong; and then there is Dr. S. Weir Mitchell's powerful story, "Constance Trescott," a book which physicians and lawyers find of peculiar interest. Other novels of the day include "The Northerner," "Under Rocking Skies," "Sabina" (by the author of "Tillie"), "The Wheat Princess" (by the author of "When Patty Went to College"), and "Zal," Rupert Hughes's international romance. And there are the ever-welcome books by Alice Hegan Rice,

the tenderly humorous "Sandy," with "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch" and "Lovey Mary."

OF A beauty and value out of all proportion to their cost are the delightful little Thumbnails, tiny gems of thought and artistic form. The new issues are a compilation of George Washington's state papers under the title of "Washington," Charles Dickens's "The Chimes," and

Mrs. Browning's "Sonnets from the Portuguese"; but there are twenty-seven others to make choice from, among them "Poor Richard's Almanack," "The Rubáiyát," Marcus Aurelius, etc.

Books are the food of youth, the delight of old age; the ornament of prosperity, the refuge and comfort of adversity; a delight at home, and no hindrance abroad; companions by night, in traveling, in the country.
—Cicero.

FOR THE man who has not Theodore Roosevelt's books there could be no more admirable Christmas remembrance. "The Strenuous Life" and "Hero Tales from American History" come in rich, dignified dress, while "Ranch Life and the Hunting Trail" has ninety-four illustrations by Frederic Remington.

WOULD YOU make an addition to home or friend's library of enduring value, what better than a standard biography? Andrew D. White's

Of gifts, there seems none more becoming to offer a friend than a beautiful book.—Amos Bronson Alcott's "Concord Days."

Autobiography is perhaps the most notable biographical work of the year; and young and old find it inspiring and delightful reading. Consider also the short life of Lincoln, condensed by John G. Nicolay

from the great ten-volume history of Nicolay and Hay. And the "Autobiography of Joseph Jefferson" will recall many delightful evenings spent under the sway of the master-comedian of the American stage.

WOULD YOU know more of these and scores of other books? An exceedingly attractive catalog, printed in color, with full details, may be had for the asking. It has in it a classified list of books for children from six to ten, from ten to fourteen, etc. A postal-card request to The Century Co., Union Square, New York City, will bring it by return mail.