

Holiday Publications

The Riverside Edition of Thackeray *

A NEW, COMPLETE, and what may be called definitive edition—if anything can be so defined in these days—of Thackeray is the Illustrated Library Edition, printed at the Riverside Press, in twenty-two handy cloth-bound volumes. It is very well laid out. The smaller original volumes—in the now extravagantly high-priced original editions—are brought together, two or three in one, to be nearly uniform in size with the two volumes of 'The Virginians,' the one of 'Henry Esmond,' originally published in three, the two of 'Pendennis,' the one which includes 'The Memoirs of Barry Lyndon,' and 'Denis Duval.' The 'Christmas Stories,' the 'Ballads and Other Poems' and the tales of 'Elizabeth Brownrigg,' 'Sultan Stork,' 'Little Spitz,' 'The Professor,' 'Miss Lowe' and 'Bluebeard's Ghost' fill one volume; the Newcomes sow their wild oats and good intentions broadcast through two. Most of the original illustrations are reproduced. They are not always as well printed as they should be—and here the publishers may have lost an opportunity to make this the final edition of Thackeray, for the somewhat scant margins might be accepted, as being like those on which the author's eyes first rested.

But, it is better than many new etchings to see once more the Colonel with Clive march up 'The Cave,' and the 'rum chap there was upstairs,' with his pork chop and his dressing-gown. Most of Thackeray's own romantic initials, his J's for plum-pudding and T's for Rhine-wine, are given; and Dicky Doyle, John Leech, Cruikshank and others come to the front once more with their inimitable vignettes. To each volume is prefixed an introductory note, which recalls in a few paragraphs the circumstances in which its contents first appeared. The 'Christmas Stories' bring out some anecdotes of Dickens, and 'The Newcomes' are ushered in with stories of J. R. Lowell and the Charterhouse. Notes on *Fraser's* and other magazines give valuable information to collectors of Thackerayana, and bits of criticism by Trollope and others are woven in. For those who cannot afford the precious first editions—and it might be sad to reckon up how many lovers of Thackeray are in that plight—this new edition offers a substitute, not exactly such as Scotch marmalade for butter, but better, to our thinking, than any that has heretofore been attainable.

* *Florida Days*. By Margaret Deland. Illus. by L. K. Harlow. \$4. Boston: Little, Brown & Co.