

The Alien. By F. F. Montresor. New York :
D. Appleton & Co., \$1.50.

A characteristic story of English life, told leisurely and without much sentiment. There are no spring tides of love, of youthful ambition in it. The very earth seems old. The curtains are drawn and the elderly ladies and gentlemen who figure in the fire-lit scenes all confess to rheumatic pangs. And the temperate "middle age" style in which the story is told often seems coldly impersonal. Still, there is enough confounding mystery in the situation to challenge attention and excite speculation as to the true explanation.



A Sherburne Inheritance. By Amanda M. Douglas. New York : Dodd, Mead & Co., 90 cents.

Apparently the author of the "Sherburne Series" has found a receipt for writing old-fashioned homiletic stories for the edification of young girls. This particular volume is the ninth to appear ; and it is as much like the other eight in style and motive as one pound cake resembles another in flavor and substance. It is a good, brown, wholesome tale—a perfect illustration of the best literary pastry.

