

her talent as a writer from her maternal grandmother, a woman of literary tastes and many accomplishments, doubtless her remarkable industry and capacity for work are an inheritance from her New England ancestors. It is to her father's memory that she dedicates this autobiography, "with reverent tenderness," and, thruout the book, she bears beautiful testimony to her father's wise and loving guidance. Mary Virginia, the third child of the Hawes household, was an observant, imaginative girl, with retentive memory, who fell asleep at night making stories to herself, but was reticent as to her rhymes and tales until she unbosomed herself to a sympathizing governess, who encouraged and helped her. She began her first book when but sixteen years of age. This she rewrote after the *Southern Era* had published a prize story from her pen. For that story she adopted the pen name she has retained thru life. "Alone," which was published in Richmond, at her father's expense, in 1854, had phenomenal success. How far this success was due to Mr. Ridpath's persistent advertising cannot be known, but the story of his interest in the novel is one of the striking incidents here recorded. Equally unusual is the story of the chapter entitled "Our True Family Ghost Story." As Mrs. Terhune's memory runs back a quarter of a century before the Civil War, she has been able to depict family life in Virginia at first hand, and to give graphic accounts of election days, barbecues, and of fierce ante-bellum political feuds. She has written many books, but, most of all, she values those that were written in aid of young housekeepers, like "Common Sense in the Household." And she wisely counts her influence for good thru lectures and the "Woman's Syndicate" page of an influential journal of more worth than mere literary fame. Her own family life, with husband, children and grandchildren, is most happily drawn, and no better tribute was ever paid by a minister's wife to his parishioners than is here written in acknowledgment of the devotion of the church in Newark, N. J., which Dr. Terhune shepherded for eighteen years. It is an interesting and readable book and the story was well worth telling.

Marion Harland's Autobiography. The Story of a Long Life. New York and London: Harper & Brothers. \$2.

It may be a surprise to some readers of this book who have thought of Marion Harland (Mrs. Edward Payson Terhune) as a typical Virginian to learn that she comes of Northern no less than of Southern stock. Her father, Samuel Pierce Hawes, was a native of Dorchester, Mass., born in the homestead of his grandfather Pierce. He began work at fourteen with a Boston merchant, and at sixteen moved with his employer to Richmond, Va., where he resided for the rest of his life except for a few years of experiment at country store keeping. If, as Mrs. Terhune believes, she inherits