

LITERARY LITTLE BITS

Florence Scovel Shinn and Elizabeth Finley have made the illustrations for "Dandelion Cottage," a new story for girls by Carroll Watson Rankin.

"The Russo-Japanese Conflict; Its Causes and Issues," by K. Asakawa, Ph.D., an authoritative account by one of the most eminent of Japanese scholars, now a member of the faculty of Dartmouth College.

"When Little Boys Sing," a quaint juvenile, has been published by A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago. Twelve songs, composed by John Alden Carpenter, with colored pictures by Mrs. Carpenter, and original verses, which are the joint work of both.

Half a hundred new volumes of verse—largely volumes of new verse, so doubt—are part of the output for this year of Richard G. Badger. Boston. Marian Longfellow, a niece of Henry W. and Hildegard Hawthorne, daughter of Julian and granddaughter of Nathaniel, are among the poets.

It is a queer coincidence that on the same day, without any knowledge of each other's purpose, Harper & Brothers, New York, announced for publication some months hence a new novel by Sir Gilbert Parker entitled "The Overlord," and William Blichie, another New York publisher, actually published a novel with that title by Allen Melvor, whose "Bride of Glenbeary" was popular last season.

Katharine Holland Brown, author of "Diane," recently published by Doubleday, Page & Co., lives in Quincy, Ill., where her father is a successful bridge engineer. Although "Diane" is her first novel, she has served an apprenticeship as a writer of short stories for the magazines. Her book is founded on Cabot's attempt to establish a French communitarian settlement in this country at Icarus, near Nauvoo, the old Mormon town on the Mississippi. To gather material for her book the author made several journeys to visit the few widely scattered Icarians who are still living, and of whom she could find traces.

Where are our American playwrights? Of course, we know where some of them are—Clyde Fitch, Augustus Thomas and a few others, but they cannot supply all the plays to keep all the theaters going and all the actors employed. The dearth of writers for the stage is indicated by the announcement of the Appletons that within a single month they have received applications from managers for permission to dramatize three of their recent novels—"Nancy Starr," by Ellen McCartney Lane; Miss Davidson's "The Mist Crown" and Thomas E. Watson's "Bethany." It is not to be supposed that American writers are not writing plays. There is probably not one of them but has from two to a dozen in his desk. Whence, then, the dearth? Is the fault with the would-be playwrights or with the managers?

Emerson Hough pleads "not guilty" to the charge of animus against the negro, for which some reviewers have found fault with his new novel, "The Law of the Land." He says he comes of a Quaker family in Virginia, who a home was more than half suspected of being a station on the "underground railroad," and all the traditions of his career have been freely told to the negro. "I am a Republican," he recently remarked to a friend, "but not that sort of Republican which thinks that all the sweetness and light—all the wisdom of the country—dwells north of the Ohio River." In "The Law of the Land," my whole interest was in the solution of the race problem—the whole book was in the lawyer's closing speech. I wanted to show that this thing cannot be solved by politics. Legally the black rules the white, but actually he does not and cannot, and never will in our time.

Judge Is Wise and Polite. While Charles Wagner, the distinguished author of "The Simple Life," was in Philadelphia he talked to a young girl about wisdom. "Will you give me, sir," she said, "a definition of wisdom?" "I'll give you an illustration of it," the philosopher answered—"an illustration of wisdom, politeness and tact, all in one."

"In our French courts there was a wonderful judge. Before him an unmarried woman came to bear witness to an important case.

"This woman's lips were no longer red. Her eyes were no longer bright. In figure she was no longer slim and supple.

"Madam, how old are you?" the judge said.

"Must I tell my age?" she asked.

"You must," he answered kindly. "You must. It is the law."

"She thought a moment. She bit her lip. Nervously she put back from her forehead the thin hair touched with gray.

"Twenty-nine," she said. "I am 29 years old."

"The wise, polite and tactful judge inclined his head and smiled.

"And now that you have given us your age," he said, "do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?"

Killed While Praying by a Grave. A Polish girl at Brooklyn went to the cemetery to pray at the grave of a relative. While she was there a stone fell on her and killed her.

OLD FAVORITES

Faithless Nelly Gray.
Ben Battle was a soldier bold
And used to war's alarms,
But a cannon ball took off his legs,
So he laid down his arms.

Cow, as they bore him off the field
Said he: "Let others shoot,
For here I leave my second leg
And the Forty-second foot."

The army surgeons made him limbs.
Said he: "They're only pegs,
But there's an wooden member quite
As represent my legs."

Now, Ben he loved a pretty maid,
Her name was Nelly Gray,
So he went to pay her his devoirs
When he devoured his pay.

But when he called on Nelly Gray
She made him quite a scoff,
And when she saw his wooden legs
Began to take them off.

"Oh, Nelly Gray! Oh, Nelly Gray!
Is this your love so warm?
The love that loves a scarlet coat
Should be more uniform."

Laid she: "I loved a soldier once—
For he was blithe and brave,
But I will never have a man
With both legs in the grave."

"Before you had those timber toes
Your love I did allow,
But then, you know, you stand upon
Another footing now."

"Oh, Nelly Gray! Oh, Nelly Gray!
For all your jeering speeches,
At duty's call I left my legs
In Badajos' breaches."

"Why, then," said she, "you've lost the
feet
Of legs in war's alarms,
And now you cannot wear your shoes
Upon your feet of arms?"

"Oh, false and fickle Nelly Gray!
I know why you refuse,
Though I've no feet some other man
Is standing in my shoes."

"I wish I never had seen your face!
But now a long farewell!
For you will be my death—ah!—
You will not be my Nell!"

Now, when he went from Nelly Gray
He heart a heavy got
And life was such a burden grown
It made him take a knot.
—Thomas Hood.

Strangers Yet.
After years of life together,
After fair and stormy weather,
After travel in far lands,
After touch of wadded hands—
Why thus joined? Why ever met,
If they must be strangers yet?

Strangers yet!
After strife for common ends,
After life of "old friends,"
After passions fierce and tender,
After cheerful self-surrender,
Hearts may heat and eyes be met,
And the souls be strangers yet.

Strangers yet!
O, the bitter thought to see
All the loveliness of man—
Nature by magnetic laws
Circle unto circle draws,
But they only touch when met,
Never mingle—strangers yet.
—Richard M. Milnes.

WOMEN AS WORKERS.

Some Figures that, After All, Are Not
Discouraging.

A statistician has gone to the trouble to ascertain that 55 per cent of all the divorced women, 32 per cent of the widowed and 31 per cent of the single women are engaged in gainful pursuits. Only about 6 per cent of the married women are similarly situated. While the great body of married women are at home attending to the domestic duties which are naturally set down for them, there is some hope that the old order of things is not going to be completely overthrown. The world will not be without homes. The figures indicate that 91 per cent of the married men are supporting their wives, though the women are, of course, doing their full share in maintaining domestic establishments which are bulwarks of morals and good order and which keep the race from dying out.

On surface analysis it may seem wonderful that 91 per cent of the married men find enough to do to support families, when so many women are in men's occupations; but the earth is big, and the ordinary attempt at comprehending the things to be done and the number of people to do them is puny indeed. In the long run there appears to be room for everybody—the home woman, the "new" woman, the manly woman, the bachelor woman, etc., likewise for the womanish man and the man who depend on the labor and shrewdness of their wives to keep them going. The mixture of the sexes in the active business affairs of today would have scared writers on political economy twenty-five years ago. It seems plain enough, for example, that when a man on a salary gets work for his daughter in the same occupation at perhaps smaller compensation than he receives, he is supping the foundation of his own employment and prosperity; that, in the long run, he will be simply dividing up his salary among the members of his own family and driving them men out of employment.

The results of widespread changes of this sort look, apparently, to an entire revolutionizing of society. But people are not stopping to study the textbooks. They are going ahead with the fashions of the time, leaving the pessimists and those who have nothing

to do but study to read up on political economy. A great many wise books have been impracticable in relation to business affairs. If society is going wrong in putting the gentler sex in the lines of employment that were formerly exclusively for men, the mistake will manifest itself some day in a serious way. Money panics result from over-wrought ambition to get rich quick, and then follows the travail of liquidation. And so it is with other affairs.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

COOKS TO THE GREAT.

Although there are nearly fifty persons employed in the British royal kitchen, beginning with a French chef whose salary is well over four figures a year in pounds sterling, King Edward himself, says London Answers, seems to profit little by their skill. A thin soup, such as Julienne, some sort of white fish, and a delicate dish composed of chicken of other birds, form one of his Majesty's typical meals. It is to his guests that most of the dainty dishes go.

Despite all that is said about the German Emperor's Spartan habits, there are few monarchs who keep more elaborate tables. He has four chefs, of different nationalities, and in addition there is an individual who may be described as "sausage-maker to the Kaiser."

His Majesty is very fond of the huge white Frankfurter sausages, and has a supply of them made fresh every day in his own kitchen. When engaged in maneuvering his army on a big field-day, these Frankfurters and bread invariably form the Kaiser's lunch.

The chef to the Czar of Russia leads a dog's life, it is said, thanks to the monarch's habit of ordering special dishes to be prepared, and then refusing them and demanding something else. "Eek, in ten fashions," was one of his extraordinary orders—counter-manded in favor of black game after the menu was put before him.

King Carlos of Portugal is the stoutest of European monarchs. This may be due to his love of English foods. Nothing delights him so much as simple roast joints and poultry, with plump gravies and sauces. When he is dining alone his evening meal frequently consists of a few oysters, a portion of a porterhouse steak, and a little Grapes, cheese.

Macaroni may be described as the staple food of King George of Greece, he insists upon having it on the table and partaking of it at every meal, in some form or other, and he alone of European monarchs employs a "macaroni chef," an Italian, who is no expert at preparing the food in a very possible way, but also at building it into all kinds of shapes.

The young King of Spain is extremely partial to goat's flesh. As he comes with this a strong liking for the garlic beloved of his countrymen, his chef's ingenuity is frequently taxed to provide something new in the way of dishes. Goose stuffed with chestnuts is another favorite of Alfonso.

The Scandinavian monarchs are simple in their choice of foods, and their cooks have easy times. The King of Sweden and Norway, in particular, is partial to cold meats and fish. Mixtures with tomatoes are a favorite mixture of his, and reindeer flesh, which is a popular food in the country, always finds a place on the royal table.

Beauties Near and Far.

A Frenchwoman who has devoted much time to the study of Americans says that she finds them delightful. Especially is she pleased with the American grandmother, who, having no exacting ties, may travel and amuse herself at an age when the French grandmothers, with a too clinging affection, has begun to crowd the nest. The New Orleans Times-Democrat gives this little illustration of the difference:

"You have children?" asked a Frenchwoman of an American whom she had met for the first time.

The American's face lighted charmingly. "Four," she answered, "and twelve grandchildren."

"Four children and twelve grand children, and yet you are in Europe?" "Oh, they don't need me."

"No, perhaps not; but in your place I should need them."

"But why?"

The question caused the French woman a visible shock.

"Every evening," said the American, "I write to my children. I tell them what I have done. My letter leaves on Wednesday. Every mail brings me news from one of them. I have excellent health. I want to profit by it. There are so many things to see."

"What things?"

"Sweden and Norway first. I shall go there this summer. I visited Japan in the chrysanthemum season. I must return for the cherry blossoms."

"Oh!"

The Frenchwoman's face was interesting to see. A woman of fifty-five the grandmother of twelve children was talking about returning to Japan to see the cherry blossoms. Such a thing was unheard of in her experience.

A Mon y-Making Combination.

Friend—How are you doing now? Scribbler—First rate. Rev. Mr. Sauttle and I have gone into partnership. Making money hand over fist.

EDITORIALS

Opinions of Great Papers on Important Subjects.

Cheap Preachers Make Cheap Churches.

A recent church conference, held in one of the Western States, it developed that several of the ministers received less than \$300 a year each. A few were paid \$150, while one was struggling to save souls on a salary of \$120 a year. In the light of these disclosures the frequently deplored scarcity of ministers is not so much of a mystery as some have considered it. Added to the terrors of the donation party, such meager salaries are enough to deter the bravest man from entering the ministry.

Men capable of being preachers can earn more in almost any other vocation, and no man who is not capable is fit to preach the gospel. It is possible, of course, that some of these poorly paid clergymen receive all their services are worth. In such cases the church and the community would be better off if they were to put their talents to some other use.

The church cannot thrive upon cheap preaching, any more than a school can flourish upon cheap teaching. The railways and the great financial and industrial concerns of the country employ none but the highest ability, and they pay the highest price for it. The average minister of the gospel is worthy of his hire; and his hire should be sufficient to maintain him in accord with the dignity of his calling.—Chicago Journal.

Carefulness and Engineers.

ONE reads, almost daily, accounts of an accident that has occurred upon some steam or elevated railway, in which a number of people have been killed or injured, through a rear-end collision. What is the cause of the frequency of these catastrophes? This question may be answered by the single word—carelessness. And the blame generally is attributable to the negligence of the engineer at the throttle or the controller bar, as the case may be. It is due the public that every precaution should be observed to insure safety in travel, and it is doubtless a moral duty that devolves upon the officials of railway corporations to employ only competent men as engineers or motormen. Competency does not merely mean the ability to run a locomotive or train of cars, for there are other qualifications of far more importance required of those who carry the lives of persons in their care. The first and most important requisite which an engineer should possess is carefulness, and until this is the standard of qualification, manslaughter, which is now generally termed accident, will continue at the present rate.

There are comparatively fewer collisions and accidents in England than in this country, as can be shown by statistics. Is it because greater care is observed in the selection of engineers, or is it that the men are better trained? At any rate, our railway accidents are too numerous, and they must be reduced. Make care the motto of every engineer so employed, and a solution of the problem will be found.—The American Inventor.

Squelch the Student Rioters.

COLLEGE students all over the country to-day are nursing broken heads and bruised bodies. The sympathy that is being extended to them wouldn't comfort a sick cat. The day may come when students will cease making asses of themselves, but the hope of the thing is pretty near dead.

Riotous "Teel" students in Boston attacked the police and were pounded. Sophomores and freshmen at the University of Illinois had a fight. One student was seriously injured and now lies in a hospital cot. Others were battered and bruised. Four students living on the North Side of Chicago played pranks with tombstones, things ordinarily held sacred by all but savages, and when the fun of the thing palled they smashed the windows of a passing trolley car with stones, wounding upon their peculiarly student-like actions by attacking a citizen. These precious youngsters were given a chance to cool off in a cell.

The people are too prone to wink at the devilry of students. It's called high spirits and animal energy and a lot of other rot about lack of criminal intent is indulged in. This sort of stuff breeds riot. The students, every one of whom has reached the age of moral responsibility,

DESERT WELLS.

When the "wanderfoot" first strikes the desert country he is surprised to learn that he is expected to pay for the water he uses for himself and for his beast. A little later, says the author of "The Mystic Mid Region," he becomes indignant upon finding himself unable to purchase even a small quantity because of the extreme caution of the proprietor of some desert well where he has expected to replenish his stock of water.

It is not an unusual happening for the desert traveler, who has toiled hours over the burning sands after his supply of water has been used up, to find the desert dweller unwilling to spare a drop of his scanty supply. Not all desert wells are dependable, and sometimes the solitary dweller of the oasis finds his supply exhausted. He then has to haul all the water he uses forty or fifty miles until such time as the winter rains come to replenish the vein which feeds his well.

Men tormented by thirst become desperate. A thirsty man knows no law save that of might. Not long ago a respectable citizen of a little California town had occasion to cross the desert at a point where water holes were few and far apart. He depended upon obtaining water at a certain ranch, established at one of the oases on his route, and when he arrived there he and his guide and burros were in sad condition, having been several hours without water. He gave his guide a five-dollar gold piece and told him to see the rancher and purchase the water necessary to carry them to the next watering place. It happened that the rancher's well was in danger of going dry, and he declined the money. He refused to part with any water. Pleadings were unavailing, and the guide returned to his employer and reported his inability to make a deal. Then the shrewd citizen arose, and, with a ten-dollar gold piece in one hand

strengthens their vandal desires with the very weakness of the public view. When they are taught that the laws of decent conduct are for them as for others and that the penalty falls on all alike there may be some chance of reform.

The shining heights of student assiduity were reached at the University of California. The students of "war tactics" rebelled because they were to be taught to march. They would take the truly royal road to learning. Could there be an exhibition of more consummate idiocy than that of a lot of youngsters who would learn the science of war without going through the preparatory school of the soldier? What they need is two hours "setting up" drill in the sun without a single "in place rest" order.

College students may be too old to be spanked, but the hard hand of authority ought to do something in the punishing line—and that quickly.—Chicago Post.

Has Japan the Money for a Long War?

NO nation can wage a protracted war unless it possesses an abundance of cash. In the long run it is possible that the conflict in the Far East will be determined by "hard cash" as much as by the valor and endurance of the victor. For the fiscal year 1904-05 the cost of the war to Japan is estimated at \$284,000,000. This outlay has already been provided for by the Japanese Parliament, which has authorized an internal loan of \$191,000,000 and treasury orders to the amount of \$15,000,000. The balance is to be raised by increased taxation.

How long can Japan stand such an expenditure? The Russian press is almost unanimous in declaring that it is the unalterable purpose of the Czar's government to continue the war until Russia is victorious. That may mean a war of several years' duration. Evidently the Japanese realize that there is to be a prolonged conflict, for the Mikado, in congratulating his soldiers for their valor in the series of battles which compelled Kuropatkin to give up Liao Yang, frankly stated that the end of the war was a long way off. If Japan can get the money there seems to be no question of its ability to fight the Russians on equal terms. But will the financiers of Europe keep the Japanese government in funds? Will the British allies of Japan be ready to furnish loan after loan, on the theory that the Japanese are fighting Great Britain's battles as well as their own? This is a phase of the war which must give the Mikado's government no little concern, for, after all, the longest purse and not the most brilliant strategy may prove the decisive factor, unless the Japanese conduct an aggressive winter campaign and destroy or capture the main Russian army.—Baltimore Sun.

Forest Growing in Prairie States.

THE American Government Bureau of Forestry has selected two widely separated sections of the treeless area of the West for a study in artificial forestry during the present season. A field force is at work studying the soils and the kind of timber best adapted to the States of Illinois and the two Dakotas, the former being a low, level prairie for the most part, and the latter, a high table-land, but both without trees, except along the streams. There has been considerable private tree planting in both States, chiefly, however, on a small scale, and for purposes of shade and shelter for farm buildings.

The Forestry Bureau is making a study of the subject with a view to the encouragement of tree planting on a more extensive scale. Two purposes are to be furthered by this: one, the growth of timber suitable for fuel, fencing and building purposes, and the other, the gradual growth of timber shelter belts at intervals sufficient to break the force of the fierce winds that sweep across these plains. Some experiments in this line have demonstrated two very important benefits, the one being that the winter wheat protected by these shelter belts survives, where otherwise it would be blown bare and killed. The other demonstrated advantage is that in the drouth seasons the sheltered land retains moisture much longer than that which is wind swept. As great portions of the treeless sections of the American West have a deficient rainfall at best, the importance of retarding evaporation can hardly be over-estimated.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

EFFECTS OF SMOKE.

Injuries It Inflicts Upon Valuable Vegetation.

An interesting discussion has been going on in Utah to determine the effect of the smoke from smelters upon crops, as many of the farmers near Salt Lake City claim that they have suffered damage by the injurious fumes given off from such establishments. Inasmuch as the annual value of agricultural products in Utah amounts to \$17,000,000, while the metallic output is practically twice as much, it is of importance that conditions should be regulated so that neither industry is injured, either by direct effects or by restrictive legislation. It was found that farms lying in the direction of the prevailing winds were the most damaged, but that in no case was it sufficient to cause a total loss of the crop. The greatest damage was done in the spring, when the leaves were tender, and in the case of fruit trees the pear was the most injured, and the plum the least. Potatoes were also affected, but corn possessed considerable power of resistance.

The chief cause of damage was the presence of sulphur dioxide in the smoke, which exerts its greatest effect when the atmosphere is damp, but as this is rarely the case in Utah, the injury was less than might be expected. The presence of arsenic and copper in the smoke was also shown, and it was believed that such substances, when

carried during the winter to distant snow fields, might become dissolved in the water and carried through the district by the water of irrigation systems. It is even possible that concentration produced by evaporation might cause the water in pools to be sufficiently strong in these last-named substances to cause the poisoning of animals. The effects of the smelters, while unquestionably present, were not so serious as feared and were not as wide spread as claimed by the farmers. Further interest attaches to the investigation in that country is arid and is formed with the assistance of artificial irrigation, and it was thought that by no turning on the water when the wind blew from the smelters an improved condition of affairs could be secured.—Harper's Weekly.

Illness Rated by Inches.

Among the most interesting of the papers read at a recent meeting of the British association at Cambridge was that of Dr. Shrubsole on the physical characters of hospital patients.

Sufferers from tonsillitis, rheumatism and heart disease, he said, are of a higher stature and sufferers from tuberculosis, nervous and malignant diseases of a lower stature than healthy individuals.

It appears that blonde sufferers from pulmonary tuberculosis respond to treatment better than brunettes, while in diseases of the heart the positions are reversed. It is believed that successive generations of city life stature shows a progressive diminution and that there is an increase in brunette traits with each generation passing from rural to urban life. With increasing length of residence there is an increase of morbidity among the different classes of Londoners.

If a girl is popular she enters her married life with a solid stomach, as the result of parties given in her honor. Combine this with new shoes, and then talk about "happy brides" if you dare.

We will bet a glass of jelly that you don't pronounce paraffine right.