

plays jokes on him and giggles and flirts with other men until Canute decides he cannot stand it any longer, then he takes his gun and rests his forehead on it with his finger on the trigger and debates with himself if he would not better pull it. He decides not to and though the sun has set and a blinding snow storm rages. He puts on his hat and goes over to Ole Jansen's house and asks him for his daughter. The father refuses his consent and so does the daughter. Canute puts her shawl and hood upon her and bears her away in his arms to his own house. Then he locks the door and goes four miles to secure the services of the little Norwegian minister. The minister refuses and Canute harnesses his horse, puts the minister's hat on his head, the minister's coat on his body and carries him off. When he arrives at his own house he makes the minister read the regular marriage service. Then he takes him back to his home and returns to his sobbing bride who has stopped weeping and begun to admire the strength and will of the man who has married her. "So it was that Canute took her to his home, even as his bearded barbarian ancestors took the fair frivolous women of the south in their hairy arms and bore them down to their war ships. For ever and anon the soul becomes weary of the conventions that are not of it, and with a single stroke shatters the civilized lies with which it is unable to cope, and the strong arm reaches out and takes by force what it cannot win by cunning." It is a good story, told with originality and a sympathetic insight into the lives of the lonely men who occupy the wind-parched plains of a foreign land. Her hero is heroic in spite of alcohol and moroseness.

"Joel, A Boy of Gallilee," by Annie Fellows Johnston! sold by Leming & Co., is a story of the times of Christ. Joel is the boy who gave Christ the five loaves and two small fishes with which He fed the five thousand people. It is the same kind of a narrative as "Titus, a Comrade of the Cross," which was published in Chicago, and in a little while sold 300,000 copies. French artists, in the last ten years, have been painting pictures of Christ and His disciples in the ordinary clothes of the peasantry—trousers and a smock. The first sight of the familiar features of our Lord in a modern dress is shocking. There is no reason, except a probably incorrect sentimental one, why he should not be dressed so. Eighteen hundred and ninety-five years ago he was a modern of moderns. At the close of the nineteenth century men still think his teachings on ethics irrational and visionary. A few "fanatics" like Tolstoi put his teachings into practice tho' the church still says "He did not mean what He said but this, my interpretation of it." Therefore His dress may be fashioned according to the vogue of any time for He belongs to all and none. Style is the clothing of ideas and Joel's story is told in the style of today. It is interesting to read an old story told by one of the characters in it. We have been looking at him; we cross over and behold the others through his eyes. The book is printed in fine large type on cream paper with wide margins. I have given it to several children to read and they have not wished to lay it down before finishing it. It is illustrated with ten illustrations by Victor A. Searles in photogravure.

A man in Portland, Maine, is organizing a ladies European tour on wheels. He advertises for twelve ladies. The party will leave New York July 25, and be back in two months—expenses of the whole trip to be covered by three hundred dollars. The trip in prospect has its fascinations. Imagine it in reality. Twelve strangers gathered from different parts of the United States, obliged to remain in each other's company for two months—two months! The most entrancing scenery, the balmy sky, castles reeking with traditions and other things, the most picturesque peasantry, the finest cathedrals and pictures, can not make that party happy if one out of the twelve is an impossible. It is safe to say that one out of every twelve persons is very disagreeable under certain conditions and that those conditions invariably prevail when traveling. This party of twelve ladies—chance-selected, may have more than one disagreeable twelfth to rob death of its terrors. Life long friendships have been broken up by European tours. Some have been more firmly cemented, to be sure, but these latter were tried as by fire. If they came out of the fatigues, starvation's dirt and smells of a European tour smiling and fond it is likely that the journey of life will still see

them hand in hand—but these are rare instances not to be counted on. Many of these parties have left Lincoln for Europe, each member dreaming of the long days uninterrupted by business in which he can enjoy the society of that friend whose adoption he thinks tried. How different the tale they tell when they return. Scraps.

The Merchants' Dining hall, corner Eleventh and P streets, has heretofore been run as a regular dining hall. It has changed its plan and will hereafter be run as a short-order house with meals from 10 cents up. Everything clean and palatable. O. E. Houck, the proprietor, is on hand to see that everyone is properly served.

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