



### THE WORLD OF BOOKS.

#### Holiday Markets Filled with Volumes of Rare Interest.

#### Butternut Jones, a Stirring Tale of the West. Presents Cowboy in a New Garb—Other Reviews.

"Butternut Jones," a Lambkin of the West, by Tilden Tilford, (D. Appleton & Co., New York, publishers,) is a stirring tale of modern Texas, told in language which is beautifully plain, clear and sympathetic. The author so imbues his story with poetry and romance that the reader is want to sing:

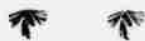
"Oh, a rancher's life is a life for me."

Butternut Jones, however is not the typical cow boy with whom we are acquainted. True, he can dress fantastically, ride like a centaur, and "likker up" a little when occasion demands; but he shaves regularly, keeps his hair cut, and never rides through town under the burden of an accumulated jag, firing his revolver and offering to fight anything that walks. He is on the contrary, very gentle and gentlemanly; a most lovable and pure-minded man, whose unobtrusive virtues are as admirable as they seem to be unusual.

Cow boys of the old type there are, however, in abundance, and the descriptions of their life, their carelessness of danger, their love of fun, their readiness to fight when their rights are threatened, their child-like loyalty and faith towards those in whom they believe, are portrayed with hearty sympathy and appreciation.

Into this wild life is brought a young woman from the East, to whom all are soon devoted slaves. And she must necessarily, lose her heart to our hero, who fully reciprocates, but is prevented from speaking, by the uncomfortable fact of a wife with whom he has never lived.

Here are materials for a charming story of love and tragedy, and the author has used them to the best possible advantage, cleverly backgrounding them with incidents of the West: the fencing in of the ranges by the cattle barons, the rush of settlers on the opening of the Cherokee strip and various other incidents.



#### PLACE AND POWER.

#### A New Volume from the Author of "Concerning Isabel Carnaby."

"Place and Power" by Ellen Thorneycroft Fowler (D. Appleton and Company, New York, publishers,) is scarcely the book that one would expect from the brilliant author of "Concerning Isabel Carnaby" and "The Farringtons." The plot is in its essentials by no means a new one. It is really a variation upon the "Faust" theme, only here the man who is ambitious for place and power, does not sell his soul to a personal Devil; he does not even believe in one. He be-

lieves that there is an implacable relentless power that governs the universe, and he defies it, asking only for justice.

The story is an attempt to show that though the guilt of sin may be forgiven, the consequences of sin can in no way be averted, but are the price we must pay for our sins. The means employed to show this are sometimes theatrical and melodramatic, and in the final catastrophe, almost absurdly improbable. The attempt to explain away the long-expected result of the defiance of the will of God, announced by a prophetic old man, who calls down a curse upon the defiant unbeliever, by a device as old as the "Arabian Nights" and immortalized in "Pinafore," is unworthy of the author or the subject.

There are eight excellent full page illustrations by H. Tenison.

#### PARLOR PLAYS.

#### "A Bunch of Roses" Contains Several Interesting Ones.

"A Bunch of Roses" and other parlor plays, by M. E. M. Davis (Small, Maynard & Company, Boston, publishers,) will solve many a social entertainment problem, and provide many an interesting evening.

Half a dozen plays are given, all of them bright, up-to-date and well arranged.



#### New Book by Andy Adams.

Andy Adams, author of "The Log of a Cowboy," now in its seventh edition, has completed a romance of old Texas, to be called "A Texas Matchmaker."

### A FOREST HEARTH.

#### A Sweet Wholesome Story Upon an Old Theme, by Charles Major.

#### A Volume Well Worthy of the Author of "When Knighthood was in Flower"

"A Forest Hearth" by Charles Major (The Macmillan Co., New York, publishers,) is a love story. Most novels are, but frequently the joys and sorrows of the loving pair are so mixed up with other matters, relevant and irrelevant, that they play only a relative small part in the action. This is not so in "The Forest Hearth." We follow the hero and heroine, without question either as to the fact they fill those positions, or that all other characters of minor importance.

The story can lay claim to little originality of plot, but does that in any way lessen its value? All plots have been used time and again, and if an old plot is well treated, it is just as interesting as though we did not already know most of its intricacies. And the story is charmingly told. There is an odor of wild flowers, a sighing of wind in the trees, a murmur of the flowing river, which pervades the whole work. Without going into any descriptions of scenery one is made to feel that he is in the midst of the half wild life of the Indiana settlers along the Blue river, in the early part of the last century.

The characters are homely people of the frontier; not uneducated and certainly not lacking in strength, but deprived by force of circumstances of most of the luxuries of life. The only house into which we really enter is a log cabin upon the banks of the Blue, with its huge open fire place, built of small logs and plastered with mud, large enough almost, to form a room by itself.

Much of the action takes place in the glow of the fire before this noble hearth. The hero is a man with whom any woman ought to fall in love; strong, manly; good without being a prig or a Pharisee. The heroine is of course, beautiful, and perhaps, a little more "truly good" than we would expect to meet in real life. The villain—of course there must be a villain—doesn't mean to be a bad man, and wouldn't if he were not so desperately in love with the heroine, who of course spurns him.

But in reality, the villain is the mother of the heroine, and we feel that our hero doesn't deserve such a mother-in-law. Then there are the other well-known characters without which no love story would be complete; the weak father (the old lady is the head of the family); the wicked brother; the designing female who attempts to steal away the lover's heart. All of these are old friends. Yet they are merely the stage setting for a sweet, wholesome story upon the old theme "the course of true love never did run smooth."

The book is illustrated effectively with reproductions of eight full page drawings by Clyde O. DeLand,



ILLUSTRATION FROM "THE GOLDEN WINDOWS."

#### THE GOLDEN WINDOWS.

#### A Delightful Book of Fables for Old and Young.

"The Golden Windows," a book of fables for old and young, by Laura E. Richards, (Little, Brown & Company, Boston, publishers,) is an ideal "hotel book;" a volume which one may pick up for a moment now and then, and lay down again without the reluctance, which one oftentimes feels with a continued story. The stories are simple, graceful and well told, and each has its lesson and moral. While it is, perhaps, essentially a children's book, it is not without interest for older people as well.

The cover design is very dainty in green and gold, and decorative initials are used throughout in starting the stories. There are five full-page drawings by Julia Ward Richards and Arthur E. Becher,

#### A CHILDREN'S BOOK.

#### "Wanderfolk in Wonderland" Makes one Wish to be Young Again.

"Wanderfolk in Wonderland" by Edith Guerrier, (Small Maynard and Company, Boston, publishers,) is "another" of those delightful children's books which makes older people wish they were young again, and which has fascination enough for them so that they will consent to read its contents and explain its illustrations to the children.

There are half a dozen stories, fables they might be called, and each of course has its moral.

The illustrations by Edith Brown, forty-two in all, are one of its most interesting features. The volume is beautifully printed in long-primer type on heavy paper and it will certainly pull hard on the purse strings of every fond parent who examines it.