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### The Girl Friend

MADEMOISELLE FROM ARMENTIÈRES. Illustrated by ALBAN B. BUTLER, JR. New York: Privately printed. Press of the Woolly Whale. 1930.

MADEMOISELLE, the lady from Armentières (to give it the universal A. E. F. pronunciation), little friend of all the American doughboys, as she had previously been of the English army, has waited long for this attempt at rehabilitation. That it is a good attempt does not make it a successful one: Mademoiselle is not likely to supersede Queen Victoria or The Five Little Peppers as a model of propriety suitable for young ladies' finishing schools. No, she is hard boiled and déclassée—but what's the use, one should have a complete command of the current argot to talk about the lady. And after all, much of what has been said, and said inimitably, is in this book.

The Press of the Woolly Whale has been for a long time collecting the verses which here appear, and has asked for versions of the poem from many persons. If you don't find your particular favorite in the list, send it in to the publisher at 216 East 45th Street, New York City, and if enough verses of authentic quality are received, he pledges himself to print an appendix and send a copy to contributors.

But don't ask him for a copy of the present volume. Only 250 copies have been printed, for private circulation, and all distributed, in May, 1930. The printing is done in French type on French paper, and the illustrations by Mr. Butler (who knew his doughboys) are a gorgeous part of the book. It is a stout little volume bound in red and black, and that it will be highly treasured by those fortunate enough to get hold of a copy goes without saying. We congratulate the proprietor of the Woolly Whale for making a dull publishing season lively. R.

### A Hazlitt Reprint

THE FIGHT, AN ESSAY. By WILLIAM HAZLITT. Introduction by ROBERT H. DAVIS. Woodstock, Vt.: The Elm Tree Press. 1929.

IT is too bad that this book misses being good. It starts off well, with a good reproduction of an old English print of a prize fight, nicely hand colored: the title-page begins well and then slumps; and the text is exasperatingly done by hand in a poor and quite inappropriate type face. The opportunity was here to do a very fine little piece of "period" printing—an opportunity which I think the printers realized. But hand and brain were not paired, and the chance was lost.

Lovers of Hazlitt will want the item—for they will not let the above criticism stand in their way—which is reprinted from its first appearance in book form, in the collected remains of 1836. One thousand copies have been printed. R.

### Money

TREATISE ON THE POWER OF MONEYS. By GABRIEL BIEL. Translated by ROBERT BELLE BURKE. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. 1930. \$2.50.

THIS volume is printed in a reminiscent manner, from round black-letter and Goudy's Italian Old Style types. In form and execution it merits commendation, despite the unfortunate attempt (almost always unfortunate) to use black-letter capital letters in complete words and lines. But on the whole it is a successful piece of work, and the side notes in color are effective. R.

### The Virginia Plutarch

THE VIRGINIA PLUTARCH. By PHILIP ALEXANDER BRUCE. Chapel Hill, N. C.: University of North Carolina Press. 1929.

AN excellent piece of sound bookmaking has been achieved by the University of North Carolina Press in these two substantial volumes. The binding alone is not quite satisfactory, being a bit too trivial for the importance of the text.

A very good linotype Scotch Roman face has been selected for the text—one of the most readable and best designed of all machine book faces for such utilitarian purposes as biography. A rag paper has been used (in the autographed edition under review) and there are few or no eccentricities to mar the pages.

The portraits and other pictures are printed by offset or gelatine, and it cannot be too often emphasized that these methods are far ahead of half-tones. It is unfortunate that the plates are "skied" unnecessarily on the pages.

In a more sober binding these volumes would be admirable. R.

### Metaphysical Verse

CIRCUMFERENCE. Varieties of Metaphysical Verse. Edited by GENEVIEVE TAGGARD. New York: Covici-Friede. 1929.

POETRY is so often printed in small, mean, and obscure type that it is good to see a volume of verse treated with some deference! Miss Taggard's anthology has been printed in a good and readable size and kind of type, with ample margins, on good paper. If it is not asking too much, may we suggest the advisability of using gold stamping on dark colored material? Gold on white or cream cloth or vellum is usually impossible to make out at a distance of a foot from the backbone, and therefore is annoying. But good verse set in twelve point or bigger is its own reward. R.

### Newly Bedizened

LALLA ROOKH, AN ORIENTAL ROMANCE. By THOMAS MOORE. Illustrated by BEN KUTCHER. New York: The Dial Press. 1930.

THIS edition of Moore's poem is distinctly in the gift book class, from its ornamental cover (not the worst part of it) to its illustrations. The latter are of that constant succession of fairly competent designs which leave one wondering why they have been made at all. "Oriental" in motif, too full of details, and those often jumbled, they look as if they had suffered severely from excessive reduction to make them fit the page. For the rest, so many galleys of linotype slugs divided off into pages do not make a book of any distinction. There seems to me little reason for such humdrum printing. But perhaps the people who like to buy standardized cigarettes, sandwiches, flash lights, and cosmetics all in the same corner store will be attracted to it. R.

### Burr and His Daughter

CORRESPONDENCE OF AARON BURR AND HIS DAUGHTER THEODOSIA. With a Preface by MARK VAN DOREN. New York: Covici-Friede. 1929.

THIS is a well enough printed volume, done in linotype Caslon type, and printed on very flexible, mellow paper, with careful attention to presswork. But that it fulfils all of the claims made for it by its over enthusiastic publishers is doubtful at least. They call it proof that "modern machinery can produce books that are practically perfect." Well, perhaps modern machinery can, but the point which this book proves is that modern machinery *alone* is helpless—more helpless than old fashioned and simpler tools. For the present volume has a very bad title-page, the stamping on the backbone is hardly legible, the frontispiece is an ordinary half-tone, and there is a fatuous colophon. Rather than this "perfection" we prefer the crudities of imperfect tools! R.

### Leda—And Eric Gill

LEDA. By ALDOUS HUXLEY. Engravings by ERIC GILL. New York: Doubleday, Doran & Co. 1929.

TO print the thin, attenuated type of Didot, and the metallic woodblock of Eric Gill, on thick, spongy, laid paper seems to me to violate the principles of true book making, even when the modern machine permits of considerable crispness in the presswork. I suspect the publishers: they do love to have books "bulk" well. (Here is a serious difference of requirement if not of opinion

between the book seller and the book buyer. The seller wants a book which looks impressive and worth the price: the buyer needs to conserve shelf space. Who wins? Why the seller, of course. *Caveat emptor.*) So it would have been pleasanter to see Gill's work—which is too precious to mishandle—printed on smooth, wove paper. What is now very skilfully handled would then come into its own legitimate perfection. R.

### A History of Paper Making

PAPERMAKING THROUGH EIGHTEEN CENTURIES. By DARD HUNTER. New York: Willima Edwin Rudge. 1930. \$17.50.

ALL too infrequently do we have opportunity to welcome an addition to the books which really are needed. Updike's "Printing Types" and McKerrow's "Introduction to Bibliography" are the two recent outstanding instances of such books, and now we have Mr. Hunter's work on paper making which fills a really long felt want. For it has been difficult to find in any one book or even in several, the data about paper making which, in respect to type and printing, has measurably been provided. Monographs on special mills or times have been published, but no general history has been available.

Mr. Hunter is probably best qualified of any one in this country to write such a book.

He is not only a student of the craft, but best of all he is an able paper maker himself, having worked at the vat, and having also printed, in type made by himself, a shorter treatise called "Old Papermaking." The present volume is a result, then, of researches into the theory and history of paper making, of actual experience, and of collecting through many years, old tools, materials used in the making of paper, and the literature of the subject.

This volume deals with the bibliography of the subject, with appliances, methods, and materials from the earliest times to about 1800 (when modern methods began to predominate), with the evolution of the mould—"the principal tool of the ancient makers of paper," with watermarks, characteristics of old paper, and Sir William Congreve's attempts to prevent counterfeiting. The illustrations are profuse—two hundred and fourteen are listed, consisting of title-pages, tools, operations, watermarks, portraits, etc.

There is no bibliography, strictly speaking. In place of one, Mr. Hunter has provided a long chapter, amply illustrated, on early writers. This will provide the collector with a guide to the assembling of books on the history of paper making, and it provides good reading—which a bibliography does not!

The origin of paper making goes back, like so many of our crafts, to the Orient, but, unlike printing, there is a clearly recognized transition from East to West.

The first paper was made from mulberry bark (used today by the natives of the South Sea Islands for their "tapa," which closely resembles oriental paper), but the Chinese, who taught the art to the Arabs, made use of linen rags because no mulberry was available in Samarkand. From the Arabs the West learned to make paper. Incidentally it is interesting to note that the first paper made in the East was made on cloth molds, which produced a wove sheet: the *laid* sheet, which we are wont to think of as older, came in later when bamboo molds took the place of cloth.

Paper making is an old craft, and in the eighteen hundred years of its practice it is inevitable that practically all varieties of material and of procedure should have been tested. By the time the industrial revolution came to change old ways, little, apparently, remained to learn about the details of the craft. But, more stubborn than hand printing, hand making of paper still continues in Asia and Europe. No machine-made paper can ever hope to possess the peculiar qualities which give handmade paper its charm. And it is interesting to note that Mr. Hunter has recently set up a mill in northwestern Connecticut, where within thirty miles of the site of the last handmade paper mill in America (torn down only a year or two ago) he proposes, with the aid of English workmen to reestablish the craft in this country. In connection with his mill, which is housed in a fine stone building

of some antiquity, he will have a museum where he will bring together the appliances and materials of paper making.

The present volume has been adequately printed by Mr. Rudge. Quite fittingly the paper is an excellent grade of wove formation, mellow and pleasant in tone and surface. The type is Granjon, the illustrations are in offset. The only criticism we have to suggest is that in some instances, as in the case of old molds, the detail is not as good as one could wish. The presswork is good, and the binding is stoutly done in buckram.

We commend this volume as one which should be in the possession of all printers and book collectors. It is a volume of very considerable importance, not likely to be soon superseded, and the pictorial material here assembled is unique. R.

A bibliography of American travel, originally begun in 1910 by Dr. Max Farrand, is now being completed by a committee appointed by the American Historical Association headed by Professor Solon J. Buck of the University of Minnesota. The bibliography is planned to cover all works of travel or description relating to continental United States from 1600 to 1900, except such as treat primarily of physical conditions or of a single locality.

The original work on the task was performed for several years by Dr. Farrand.

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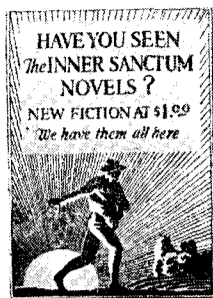
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THE October number of *Poetry: A Magazine of Verse* will usher in its nineteenth year. It will bear a new cover, with a new presentation of its Pegasus, the work of Eric Gill, the celebrated artist and engraver. . . .

A very literary litter of Sealyhams recently appeared when "Jinny," a Sealyham, the property of Stephen Vincent Benét, author of "John Brown's Body," brought forth her brood at The Acorns, Peacedale, Rhode Island, the home of Leonard Bacon, author of "Lost Buffalo" and other volumes of satirical poems. The Benét's are occupying Mr. Bacon's house for the summer. The father of "Jinny's" family is a celebrated Sealyham-about-town known both as "Jacob" and as "Mr. Cholmondely," and the property of Joseph Brewer, head of the publishing house of Brewer & Warren. The litter consists of three males and two females. "Mr. Cholmondely" immediately telegraphed his felicitations to his consort and presented each puppy with a colored leash. "Well," he barked when interviewed, "I think there's a good deal to be said for this family life after all. But I wish my wife was back. . . .

"The Moustrous Regiment," the Catholic Book Club's selection for August, is the brilliant history of England during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, by Christopher Hollis. Its New York publishers are Minton, Balch & Company. . . .

Longmans, Green have just published "Madame Roland," by Madeleine Clemenceau-Jacquemaire, who is the daughter of the late Georges Clemenceau. . . .

A September book that we can recommend in advance, even though it is by an author of the past that some have never heard of, will be "The Diamond Lens and Other Stories," by Fitz-James O'Brien, to be published by William Edwin Rudge of 475 Fifth Avenue, with an introduction by Gilbert Seldes, illustrated by Ferdinand Huszti-Horvath. It will sell for about five dollars. Fitz-James O'Brien possessed genius in the short story, genius second only to that of Poe. His tales deserve preservation in the finest possible format, which Mr. Rudge is sure to give them. . . .

The honor of a collected edition among the Oxford Poets during the author's lifetime has been accorded hitherto only to Robert Bridges. Now Lascelles Abercrombie also has been given the accolade by the Oxford University Press. He is a fine critic as well as a distinguished poet. . . .

On the fifteenth of September, Ives Washburn will bring out Fred D. Pasley's "Al Capone: The Biography of a Self-made Man." Alphonse Capone, the Scarface, is a notable product of our time. He is already almost a legendary figure. He has a bodyguard bigger than that of the President. He "owns" the town of Cicero, outside of Chicago. He winters in Florida. He is a fascinating commentary on modern America. . . .

Last March in England we heard no little comment on the latest work of William Faulkner, the young Southerner who will in October present through Cape & Smith his fifth published novel, "As I Lay Dying." . . .

Early in October also the Viking Press will bring out a saga of the great game of poker, text by Franklin P. Adams (F.P.A.) and caricatures by William Auerbach-Levy. Here is a chance to learn all about modern poker adherents from Charles Chaplin to Irving Berlin. The title of the volume will be "Dealer's Choice." . . .

George Doran's leaving the firm of Doubleday, Doran to become associated with the William Randolph Hearst organization in an executive capacity is the most exciting piece of news of the past week or so. The Nest wishes Mr. Doran the greatest success whatever his future efforts. In a number of ways he had been the most remarkable of our American publishers, and originally built up for his own firm the highest possible reputation. . . .

We have never had such a response to anything as to that rhymes-on-the-states business. We have been forced to close down on it, but we wish to acknowledge the contributions of A. I. N. S., Miss D. W. Kirk, of Montgomery, Alabama, and Pickett Davison of Nebraska. . . .

Sinclair Lewis's "Babbitt," which has been translated into almost every civilized

tongue except French, has just appeared in a French version with an introduction by Paul Morand. It is said to be the literary event of the Paris season. Lewis, of all living American authors save Upton Sinclair, is probably the most widely read in Continental Europe today. . . .

The first story of Chicago's gangs was told in "Diversey" by Mackinlay Kantor, published two years ago. Now in "El Goes South" he writes about the city-dwellers who hold the ordinary jobs and ride on elevated trains. His locale is Rogers Park, the far north side of Chicago. We have had the Gold Coast there, the slums, the grain market, the Little Bohemia. But here we have the people whose lives hang on the thread of the elevated, the stricken average. . . .

The Bonibooks at fifty cents come sealed in glazed transparent paper and are nice little nuggets in the hand. Recent titles issued in this edition of paper books are "Chéri" by Colette, "Open All Night" by Morand, "My Reminiscences as a Cowboy" by Frank Harris, "By the Waters of Manhattan" by Charles Reznikoff, "What Is Wrong with Marriage" by Hamilton and MacGowan, "Kept" by Alec Waugh, and "The Return of the Hero," by Darrell Higgins. . . .

The Junior Literary Guild has announced that its age groups will be rearranged to include younger children than have heretofore been admitted for membership. Beginning with October first, books will be sent to four groups of children instead of three, ranging in age from six years to sixteen years. The present membership is from eight to sixteen years of age. . . .

During the Twenty-second Universal Esperanto Congress, to be held at Oxford, "Charley's Aunt" will be produced in Esperanto! "Talkies" will also be shown in the same language in the local cinemas, and there will be a silent film with Esperanto captions. . . .

Speaking of the talkies, A. P. Herbert, the English humorist, has recently been writing the dialogue for a talkie called "Windjammers." Rather an appropriate title for a talkie! . . .

The famous Italian playwright, Pirandello, has signed a contract with one of our companies for the production of four talkies from his works. He will come over here to supervise production, for which he will receive over sixty-five thousand dollars. . . .

The original edition of Carl Sandburg's "The American Songbag" sold for \$7.50 net. Now the Popular Edition, printed from the plates of the original, can be procured from Harcourt, Brace for \$3.50. This is about the best big collection of American song that we know of. . . .

We are glad to see another mystery story by Francis Beeding listed for this month by Little, Brown,—namely, "The Four Armourers." As a matter of fact, who Francis Beeding really is is also a mystery. But "The House of Dr. Edwards" was one of the swellest blood-curdling yarns we had read for years. In November the same firm brings out a new Jefferrey Farnol novel, "Over the Hills." . . .

And now we really are going on our vacation. We are going to hie us to New Hampshire. By Gosh, we won't come back to this city until September, unless we are dragged hither screaming. . . .

And, as usual, just at the last minute we are racking our brain for any additional news to give you before we grab up our satchel and run for the train. We can't think of any except that the Business Manager of this paper left some time ago for a swell trip through California. The Editor, of course, has retired to Cornwall, Connecticut. The Managing Editor, having had an early encounter with the summer on the outskirts of the South, will hold forth for this month. . . .

How to reach

The end of a column.

You'll never do it

By being solemn.

You'll only do it

By being gay—

And beating the game

This way!

THE PHENICIAN

**The AMEN CORNER**

We hope you made note of Mr. Gilbert M. Troxell, The Compleat Collector's, estimate (in the *Saturday Review of Literature* of May 24th) of the publishers whose books we periodically urge you to read. "The Oxford University Press," he said, "has never lent itself to anything either common or undistinguished." Furthermore, we hope that you bear this in mind when you visit your bookshop and stand harrassed by doubt in the sea of books. . . . There has been a lot said recently by reviewers, columnists, and other writers to the effect that publishers should publish "fewer and better books." We suggest that when book readers buy "fewer and better books," publishers will follow the same programme. But we are enlarging an already inflated theme. As book-buyers in this day of diminished increments and overcrowded apartment bookshelves, our problem is one of economy. It is usually with economy and books in our mind that we pay our periodic visit to the Oxford University Press Library at 114 Fifth Avenue, N. Y. C., our reasoning being that a book that will give us more pleasure and knowledge at each new reading is, regardless of its cost, a book that even a Scotsman can't complain about.

We are always attracted by the *World's Classics* whose titles are always increasing in variety and interest. And the *Oxford Miscellany* is our special delight. This series is, to Ben Ray Redman's mind, a gold mine to the real lover of books. The *Oxford Standard Authors*, including the leading poets, are the cheapest and best edition we know, and in their many leather bindings make a perfect gift book for any purse.

*Dress and Ornament in Ancient Peru*, by Gösta Montell, is full of information that will open your eyes to the cultural wealth of ancient America. M. D. C. Crawford of the New Freeman says, "in the future, no library of Americana will be complete without this all-too-brief memoir."

*A Vision of the Mermaids*, by Gerard Manley Hopkins, is the complete facsimile edition of the MS, and is limited to 250 copies. The *Life of Gerard Manley Hopkins*, by Father Lahey, S.J., and the forthcoming *Poems of Gerard Manley Hopkins* (in September, we believe) are evidence of the growing interest in this highly imaginative and colorful poet. Oxford has daily inquiries about these books. Perhaps the enthusiasm of T. S. Eliot, Louis Untermeyer, and the late Robert Bridges is bearing fruit. Surely here you will find a splendor of imagery and rich, intricate poetry.

*Lotus of the Wonderful Law* has just been translated by W. E. Soothill. It is the greatest religious book of the East, holding a place with the Buddhist that the Bhagavadgita does with the Hindu, and the Gospel of St. John with the Christian. It is rich in legend and ancient custom. It is half in prose, half in verse.

*The Romance of a Modern Liner*, by Captain E. G. Diggie, is the fascinating life story of the great floating palace of the seas—R.M.S. Aquitania. Boys and girls will enjoy this book as well as adults. This ship is a rare jewel in the crown of engineering, and her story is a glorious one.

Quite a different sort of book for seagoers is C. E. T. Lewis's *Handyman's Yacht Book*, a practical guide to small yacht building and "one of the best" according to Lieut. Commander E. S. Martin. It will persuade you that yachting is not a pastime for the rich alone, and that for fear of heavy expenses you are missing a lot of fun.

Those who enjoyed H. G. Wells's "Outline" will welcome Singer's *Short History of Medicine*. Curiously enough the most salutary and constructive field of human endeavor—the science of medicine—has been omitted from all comparative histories of mankind. Singer here gives us an authoritative outline, not of gills and gullets, but of the progress of the medical sciences.

Those who read F. P. A.'s column in "The World" a few months ago, and failed to laugh at "Spanish wine and women are a snare ANDALUSIAN" will do well to peruse *Rock Paintings of Southern Andalusia*.  
—THE OXONIAN.

(1) Send for complete list of over 375 titles (80c each) of fiction, biographies, essays, poetry, religion, travel, philosophy, history, drama, letters, science, and criticism. (2) A series of green and gold volumes, each \$1.25, including such gems as Kinglake's *Eothen*, The *Miscellany of a Japanese Priest*, The *Kilmarnock Burns* (in type-facsimile), etc. (3) \$1.50 each. (4) Send for descriptive booklet of these magnificent bindings. (5) \$6.00. (6) \$7.50. (7) \$3.00. (8) Probably \$3.00. (9) If you like T.S.E. you will want to read his essay in *Tradition and Experiment in Present-Day Literature* (\$2.50). (10) Send for list of complete poetry. *The Testament of Beauty*, \$3.50. (11) \$6.00. (12) \$2.50. (13) \$4.25. (14) \$3.00. (15) \$25.00.