

sexed? Must be very unpleasant to be called 'strong-winged,' don't you think? Thank goodness, my wings have always been kept properly folded; one does not need them in a nest."

Howbeit, not all the Mesdames Hornbill, so it seems, were equally satisfied with their lot in life; and some of them, having discovered that the purpose of their imprisonment was to secure proper care of the Hornbill juniors, announced that they would rear no families at all. Certain of these females accordingly made their way out into the wide world and began scratching for their own provender—to the great disgust of a number of the males, who set up a loud clamor to the effect that if each bird foraged for itself, instead of the male securing enough for two, there would not be sufficient edibles to go around. Therefore they all closed in about the choicest worms, leaving the energetic females the poorest specimens as a reward for really energetic work. "Sorry, my dears, but it would de-sex you to get fat worms for yourselves, and if you know when you are well off, you'll go back home and take such sustenance as we may choose to bring to you!"

Observing that the industrious lady Hornbills worked hard for small returns, a number of the broodless feminines continued to report at their nests at feeding time, and the Hornbill husbands brought home provisions for these mates who did no work at all. Whereupon a pessimistic male took a great book and wrote down, not without exhibiting symptoms of hysteria, his opinion of the case. "Shameless female creatures, extraordinarily free and hopelessly enslaved," said he, "how does it happen that you have no families and yet do not go after your own food?"

A plump, astute appearing Madam Hornbill looked at him in some surprise. "Do you not know," quoth she, "that not all female Hornbills like to remain forever in the nest; but that under the present arrangement of our domestic affairs, they are compelled to do so if they once have broods? As for scratching for one's self, why should I work as hard as any male, and get worms that are not worthy the consideration of the discriminating bird? Pray hold your tongue; do you see those fat masculine Hornbills over there, who live in clubs, are awarded the very best of the feeding ground, and never dream of scratching for any others than themselves? What would you think of me if I were rude enough to say that because they had no families, they had degenerated to the level of *mere male creatures*? An abusive tongue comes as naturally to a male Hornbill as the very feathers on his back."

LOUISA DANA HARDING.

✦ ✦ ✦

There is no nature which is inferior to art, for the arts imitate the natures of things.—Marcus Aurelius Antoninus.

## BOOKS

### RED RUSSIA.

**Red Russia.** By John Foster Fraser. New York: John Lane Co. Price, \$1.75. Postage, 15c.

With the first tragic chapter of "Red Russia" the reader who has no appetite for bloody horrors may feel inclined to pause. But surviving the shocking barbarities visited on Anna Smirnoff and Marie Spiridonoff, one finds the vivid graphic picturing of scenes with which Mr. Fraser has made himself familiar, an exceedingly interesting study.

Of course in striving to get at the "true inwardness" of the Russian situation the author sees things more or less from the English standpoint, though, as he says, "the Russians are not Britons." One must, in a way, enter into the life and habits of a nation to find any effectual method of helping it out of its difficulties.

It is possible to discover points of resemblance—such as an American, even, might recognize,—say like this:

Nine out of ten Russians are fiery with wrath at the corruption of their land. But I have noticed that however much a Russian may denounce corruption, most Russians are anxious to get into public service, and when they succeed and opportunity comes their way, they are just as willing to take bribes and squeeze blackmail as any of the others.

It is not certain that we can cast stones here.

"Red Russia" abounds in quotable passages vividly illustrative of the truth which Mr. Fraser is seeking to give the public, but space can be granted for only a few.

There are nearly 40,000,000 peasants in Russia insufficiently provided with land. . . . Some 180,000,000 would be required to satisfy the need. . . . How is that land to be obtained? Such is the mighty problem which faces all statesmen in Russia. . . . If all the available State lands not under timber were to be secured there would be only one-fourteenth of the amount needed. The solution of the problem arrived at by the majority of the late Duma [the first] came to this: There must be the expropriation of private ownership of land. The Government absolutely refused to recognize such a principle on the ground that it was confiscatory. . . . That is the situation to-day.

If there had been only the Russian people to deal with the Government might have succeeded in crushing them. But there were and are alien races in the empire, the people of the Baltic Provinces, Germans speaking the German language, the Poles a cultured people, and the Jews certainly intellectual, and all superior to the Russian in mental capacity. These are antagonistic to the Government and have been zealous in the advocacy of liberal principles.

These are only haphazard quotations that in-

sufficiently represent the power and purpose of the author of "Red Russia" which no one interested in the problem of Russian politics should fail to read.

A. L. M.

## BOOKS RECEIVED

—The Real Farmer. By John M. Stahl. Published by the Illinois Farmer Co. Press, Quincy, Ill. 1908.

—Bulletin of the Bureau of Labor, No. 75, March, 1908. Published at the Government Printing Office, Washington, 1908.

—Home Problems from a New Standpoint. By Caroline L. Hunt. Published by Whitcomb & Barrows, Boston. 1908. Price, \$1.00 net.

—Dont's for Bachelors and Old Maids. By Minna Thomas Antrim. Published by the Henry Altemus Co., Philadelphia. 1908. Price, 50 cents.

—Christmas vs. Fourth of July. By Asenath Carver Coolidge. Published by Asenath Carver Coolidge, Watertown, N. Y. 1908. Price, 25 cents.

## PERIODICALS

"A Reading Journey Through Switzerland," by Oscar Kuhns, fills the August Chautauquan. The many photographs are very beautiful and the reading matter would make an interesting little guide book to the scenic beauty and historic greatness of little Switzerland.

A. L.

Because "it reveals about a man the precise points which are unimportant," Chesterton somewhere objects to realistic biography. And "Mr. Dooley" would agree with him. "General Grant and the Facts of History" in The American Magazine for August is one more proof that F. P. Dunne will some day himself be the victim of "that there Muse iv Hilsthry." "Fame," says Mr. Dooley, "is always playin' April fool thricks with th' great. It pins a goold medal

on th' chest iv th' hero, an' as he sthruts down th' sthreet he little knows that it has hung a sign on his coat tails, sayin': 'Plaze kick me.'"

A. L.

"What is the Matter with our Land Laws?" asks Seth K. Humphrey in the July Atlantic. His answer is a vigorous and constructive criticism, directed chiefly against the "lottery system" and fixed charge per acre in the government's disposal of agricultural lands; and unreservedly favoring government ownership and supervision of all timber tracts. "Encouraged and abetted by the land laws, the gambling mania for public land has passed all bounds. Every land opening is a wild crgy; the fierce rush at the crack of a gun was nothing to the now fiercer hope at the turn of an envelope. A frenzied, deluded mob wastes its energy and money at every lottery-drawing in wild reaches for the government's bait, always followed about by a horde of land speculators, ready to pick off the winners—a set of men in make-up and motive as utterly unlike the men who made the original homestead law a blessing to their country, as black is unlike white." The remedy? "Make the main charge for the land in terms which are no burden whatever to the bona fide farmer, . . . but which are wholly unattractive to the passing throng that merely seeks something for nothing." "The fixed charge should be abolished. . . . In all cases of special openings of lands to public entry, . . . nothing but competitive sale, subject always to full restrictions, will secure a sane, equitable distribution of the land to actual farmers." "Of even more importance than the disposal of agricultural land is the conserving of our remaining timber." "Our forest-reserve system is the most vitally important public enterprise of the day, but if we are really going to save our timber we must save the vastly greater area which lies in scattered tracts outside any prospective reserve." "Sell the first cutting [with strict regulations as to method and quantity] to the lumberman, but hold the title forever in the government, and terminate

**ECONOMIC AND REFORM BOOKS**  
a Specialty. New Bargain Catalog, Just Ready, FREE.  
H. H. TIMBY, Conneaut, Ohio

**The New Theology Magazine**  
is an exponent of the New Theology Movement.  
Introductory price, 10 cents for three months.  
21 Madison Street, Room 10 :: BOSTON, MASS

**REAL ESTATE FOR SALE AND EXCHANGE**  
**EDWARD POLAK**  
4030 Third Avenue - - NEW YORK CITY

Hours: 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. Telephone Harrison 1027  
**CHARLES L. LOGAN, D. O.**  
**OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN**  
Office: 45 Auditorium Building  
HOTEL WARNER—EVENINGS **CHICAGO**

**Garrison, the Non-Resistant**, with its record of a little known phase of William Lloyd Garrison's life, and its remarkable non-resistant analysis of the Civil War situation, is already known to you. We carry that in the original blue cloth edition, with portrait, at fifty cents, as formerly. ¶ And we have recently added to our stock a twenty-five cent edition, lacking the portrait, bound in a heavy, durable drab paper. There is no charge for postage on either edition.

Address THE PUBLIC, BOOK DEPT.  
Ellsworth Bldg., Chicago