

# Books and Authors

## Domestic Service<sup>1</sup>

Dr. Lucy Maynard Salmon, Professor of History at Vassar College in 1889 and 1890, sent out three schedules—one to employers of domestic labor, one to the employees, and one to the women's exchanges—asking for information on kindred subjects. The answers to these schedules, filled out, were used as a basis for deductions as to the actual condition of domestic service in this country. Since that time Professor Salmon has given the closest attention to the economic, ethical, and historic conditions of domestic service in all ages, and the result of her studies appears in this volume. Those who see in the condition of domestic service a present-day problem from which housekeepers of the past were free will be surprised, and perhaps somewhat discouraged, by the revelations of historic research made by Professor Salmon. It is a problem almost as old as the history of the human race. It is, as Professor Salmon points out, a question bristling with economic problems, to which the student of economics has given practically no attention. In 1880 2.32 per cent. of the entire population in this country were domestic servants; 4.07 per cent. of the population of the fifty largest cities were servants; these cities have over thirty-two per cent. of all the domestic servants in the country. The census of 1880 showed that 1,500,000 domestic servants received in wages almost \$300,000,000, and that employers increased their household expenses by about an equal amount in providing food, fuel, light, and shelter for these employees.

Professor Salmon acknowledges the general inefficiency of this vast and expensive army of employees; she believes that housekeepers are responsible for the chaos in this department of labor. The inefficiency she attributes to the lack of training and the poor mental equipment of the girls who choose this field of employment. Schedules returned by the employers are worth careful study. The attitude of the servants is antagonistic toward their work; they are domestic servants because they cannot get other employment. Professor Salmon objects to the term "servant;" she believes that its use is often the reason why girls of intelligence refuse to go into household service. The wages compare most favorably with those paid in other departments of female labor. The absence of domestic life, the loneliness of the one servant in a family, Professor Salmon believes is the cause of restlessness that expresses itself in a constant desire for change. The solutions offered are scientific: the evolution of character, the increasing of educa-

tional opportunity, the use of labor-saving devices to reduce the labor in the home; the eliminating from the home of all labor that can be performed out of it; the introduction of profit-sharing into the home; the bringing to the service of the homes the best knowledge the world has developed. Professor Salmon closes by saying: "Reforms begin at the top, revolutions at the bottom. It rests with men and women of the so-called upper classes, whether raised to their position by birth, wealth, intellect, education, or opportunity, to work out in the best way a satisfactory solution of the vexed question of domestic service." Professor Salmon has made a most valuable and scholarly contribution to the subject of domestic service. Whether one agrees with her conclusions or not, her investigations are most helpful and suggestive. She has dignified a subject that concerns American home life most closely, and that hitherto has not been treated with such seriousness and authority, nor with a full conception of the need of the application of the best-trained minds in every household to help toward its solution, not for one household, but for every household in America employing servants and every person selling service.

## Books of the Week

[The books mentioned under this head and under that of Books Received include all received by The Outlook during the week ending May 21. This weekly report of current literature will be supplemented by fuller reviews of the more important works.]

### RELIGIOUS AND THEOLOGICAL

In 1888-89 the late Dr. Fenton John Anthony Hort, an erudite and careful scholar, delivered a course of lectures on the early history and the early conceptions of the Christian Church. These lectures have now been gathered into a volume which the Macmillan Company have published under the title of *The Christian Ecclesia*. The book contains a well-planned survey of the evidence which we have in the literature of the Apostolic age for the solution of interesting problems. Dr. Hort's work is in one sense fragmentary, since much of the evidence of the early Christian centuries finds no place therein; the evidence of the New Testament, however, is practically exhausted. The second division of the subject, namely, the early conceptions of the Ecclesia, had more attraction for the lamented scholar and has more for us. We find in the four sermons which are included as a kind of appendix, much illuminative material; the last of these sermons was Dr. Hort's last public utterance. The book is one which will be of great value to all students of the theology and of church history.—We reserve for later notice Bishop Hurst's *History of the Christian Church*, the first

<sup>1</sup> *Domestic Service*. By Lucy Maynard Salmon. The Macmillan Company, New York.

volume of which has just been published. The history will be complete in two volumes. The second may be expected to appear in 1898. (Eaton & Mains, New York.)—The Rev. Daniel Berger has published, through the United Brethren Publishing House, Dayton, Ohio, a *History of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ*. More than a third of a century has elapsed since the last history of this denomination was published. The present portly volume contains a good deal of detail; it is true, but perhaps none too much from a denominational standpoint.—We are glad to welcome the first volume of a series of Handbooks to Christian and Ecclesiastical Rome. The authors, "H. M. and M. A. R. T.," have prepared for their first volume an amount of condensed information which will be appreciated by every tourist. *The Christian Monuments of Rome* are monuments of great import not only to Christians, but to all students of art, archæology, and history. We trust that the succeeding volumes in the series may be as interesting and valuable as is the first issued. The publishers, Messrs. A. & C. Black, London (the work is imported by the Macmillan Company, New York), deserve credit for the practical and easily portable shape which they have given to the book.

## LITERATURE

To the Temple Classics (The Macmillan Company, New York) have been added Part III. of Sir Thomas Malory's *Le Morte Darthur*; Volume II. of Florio's translations of the Montaigne *Essays*, and the first two volumes of Carlyle's *French Revolution*. The value of this library—for such it promises to be—becomes more apparent as it goes on.—The same publishers have issued *Ezekiel* in Professor Richard G. Moulton's Modern Reader's Bible, with the usual introduction and notes.—Marlowe's *Doctor Faustus*, which very properly finds its place among the Temple Dramatists, was probably written about 1588-9, and was immediately very successful. The story was retold at once in ballad form. The play was probably put on the stage about the time of its production. It was acted in Germany at the beginning of the seventeenth century, and formed there a part of a great mass of fragmentary literature which was finally crowned by Goethe's great drama. In 1829, commenting on Marlowe's "Faustus," Goethe said to Crabb Robinson, "How greatly it is all planned!" The play gives expression in the most masterful form to the lust for knowledge, as "Tamburlaine" gave expression to the lust for power. (The Macmillan Company, New York.)—From the Macmillan Company also comes Balzac's *Lily of the Valley* in the series of translations now in course of preparation under the general direction of Professor Saintsbury.

Georges Pellissier's *Literary Movement in France during the Nineteenth Century* (G. P.

Putnam's Sons) was described by M. Brunetière as "no less the picture than the history of contemporary French literature." In addition it is also the philosophy, or rather describes the evolution of the literary movement of our century. It is a work, therefore, of very large compass, and will demand more extended treatment. The English version, which is authorized, has been made by Anne Garrison Brinton, who also furnishes a general introduction.

Dr. F. V. N. Painter, the Professor of Modern Languages in Roanoke College, has published, through Messrs. Leach, Shewell & Sanborn, Boston, an *Introduction to American Literature*, a companion volume to his well-known "Introduction to English Literature." We cordially agree with Dr. Painter that literature cannot be learned from ordinary manuals; while they furnish many bare facts about literature, they do not present literature itself. Dr. Painter's interesting volume is not so much a manual as an introduction to literature itself. It treats only of the leading periods and principal writers. The illustrative selections are well chosen and the notes are ample.

## NOVELS AND TALES

A sequel to a novel written by another hand is likely to be interesting. Many of us became intimately familiar with the characters in "An Old Maid's Paradise," by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps—Corona, Puelibir, and the Raspberry-Man, not to mention Matthew Launcelot, between whom and the Lobster-Man will always be divided the honors of being the fourteenth guest at Corona's wedding. Mrs. Phelps Ward's readers have always looked for a sequel to "An Old Maid's Paradise." It is found in *The Burglar Who Moved Paradise*, by Herbert D. Ward. (Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.) Great and stormy was the moving of Paradise, but peaceful and happy was its final resting-place, leaving two happy people gazing out at the setting sun. This is a love-story after marriage, and proves again that love is the greatest thing in the world.

*A Slight Romance*, by Edith L. Dalton, has reached the honor of a second edition. It is a pleasant and natural study of New England social conditions. (The Old Corner Book-Store, Boston.)

The telling of the every-day life of a slave on a plantation in Tennessee by one of the family she had served lends a charm to *Aunt Dice: The Story of a Faithful Slave*, by Nina Hill Robinson. (Publishing House of the M. E. Church South, Nashville, Tenn.) The characters are drawn with a firmness that gives them photographic quality; a charming picture of life on a Southern plantation and the relations between master and slaves in some Southern homes is given in "Aunt Dice."

The short stories by the author of "John Halifax, Gentleman," published in "Chambers's Journal" and other publications, have been issued in book form (Thomas Whittaker, New York) under