

NEW BOOKS

"JERRY." By Arthur Stanwood Pier-Thomas Allen. \$1.50 net.

JERRY is a good-humored young chap who has a way with kiddies and a will to better his condition which takes him from the beat to the bar. He is a policeman at the beginning of the story and very much in love—at least he thinks he is—with a young lady whose father is a mill-hand who wants a millionaire for a son-in-law. Jerry takes up the challenge without telling anybody about it, so the young lady marries somebody else. Before Jerry becomes a barrister, by reason of home study and hard work, he learns a lot of things about life, and the tale is really a leisurely excursion along with Jerry as he goes on from day to day towards the realization of his heart's desire. It is a pleasant, home-folksy kind of story.

"THE PAINTED WOMAN." By Fred A. Kummer: Geo. T. McLeod. \$1.35.

IF you can imagine what would happen when a puritan discovered that the fair lady of his heart's desire had been living as the light-o-love of a bearded bucanier, you'll have some idea of the plot around which Frederick Arnold Kummer wrote "The Painted Woman." The setting of the story is somewhere along the Barbary coast, and the period is that in which pillage and piracy were the outstanding features of social doings all up and down and round about the Spanish main. There is a "One-eye"; a "Fire-brand," and a "Portuguese Joe," and a lot of rum and general wickedness mixed up in the love story of the puritan, John Barton, and the Spanish slave, Ramona de Lara; and the way in which Mr. Kummer delivers them finally from evil is rather astonishing. John puts aside all thought of the painted period in Ramona's adventure-some history and takes her north to New England as Mrs. Barton. At least Mr. Kummer says he did.

"THE YOUTH PLUPY." By Henry A. Shute: Thos. Allen. \$1.35.

THERE are a lot of "first" things set down by Henry A. Shute in the record of "The Youth Plupy," which tells of the vicissitudes of a lad with a downy chin. But one of the funniest incidents of the lot has to do with the "first" time Plupy's voice broke and shattered his chances for carrying away the prize in oratory at the school's annual contest. Then there is his "first" shave; his "first" love affair and his "first" breach of promise case. There is a delightful freshness about the whole book, in fact. It is written in an entertaining way, very much after the style of its predecessor, "The Real Diary of a Real Boy," in which Judge Shute drew a memory-provoking picture of the days when we were lads and lassies and pumpkin pies were not hidden behind a plaster of food pledges.

"MARTIE." By Kathleen Norris: William Briggs. \$1.40.

THERE is a wholesome simplicity about Mrs. Norris' stories and her facile descriptions of everyday domestic life are done in a way which

weaves a glamour of interest about her characters and puts a gloss over the commonplace incidents she sets down in the telling of her tale. "Martie" is much like the other books by Mrs. Norris, and is equally entertaining. It is the story of a young girl's rebellion against the old-fashioned notion that boys are better family assets than girls. Martie's brothers get all the plums from the family pantry, so to speak, so the red-headed young miss starts out towards emancipation in defiance of her father's will that she stay around home as a domestic drudge. The full title of the book is "Martie the Unconquered," and the way she emerges from the tangle of difficulties which follow her declaration of independence quite fits the characterization.

The Eleventh Hour

(Continued from page 20.)

"Thanks to Mr. Ferris, who is a special agent of the United States Government," Trant motioned to the slight, dark man who was the fourth member of the party, "I have been able to fix upon four men, one of whom, I feel absolutely certain, shot and killed young Newberry through the window of the billiard room that night. Inspector Walker has had all four arrested and brought here. Mr. Ferris's experience and thorough knowledge enabled me to lay my hands on them much more easily than I had hoped, though I was able to go to him with information which would have made their detection almost certain sooner or later."

"You mean information you got at the house?" asked Siler, somewhat bewildered.

"Just so, Siler; and it was as much at your disposal as mine," Trant replied. "It seemed to mean nothing to you that Walter Newberry knew the hour at which he was to die—which made it seem more like an execution than a murder; or that in his terror he raved that 'he would not do it, that they could not make him do it,' plainly meaning commit suicide. Perhaps you don't know that it is an Oriental custom, under certain conditions, to allow a man who has been sentenced to death the alternative of carrying out the decree upon himself before a certain day and hour that has been decided upon! But certainly his ravings, as told us by his wife, ought to have given you a clue, if you had heard only that sentence which she believed an injunction not to sing loudly, but which was in reality a name—Sing Lo!"

"Then—it was a Chinaman!" cried Siler.

"It could hardly have been any other sort of man, Siler. For there is no other to whom it could be commended as a matter of such vital importance whether his mother had small feet or large, as was shown in the other sentence Mrs. Newberry repeated to us. It was that sentence that sent me to Mr. Ferris."

"I see—I see!" exclaimed the crestfallen detective. "But if it was a Chinaman you'll never get the truth out of him."

"I know, Siler," Trant answered, "that it is absolutely hopeless to expect a confession from a Chinaman; they are so accustomed to control the

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