

Bourgeois Gentlehomme," and extracts given from them. The pupil is in this way introduced to the study of French literature. The book will also be found of great service to a teacher as a means of supplying him with interesting material for his classes in French conversation.

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We are also indebted to Prof. Stern for two volumes in German, "Studien und Plaudereien." These books are made on the same plan as the French one, the second volume, being more advanced than the first. The German books have one addition, which makes them still better adapted to the needs of a school reader. The last part of each volume contains a collection of poems, some of the gems of German literature, also some of the best known "Volkslieder" with music. If such books as these were used, the reading class would lose much of its monotony, and the French and German conversation, instead of being forced and stilted, would become natural and fluent.—A. E. M.

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The most distinctive and interesting contribution to this month's *Scribner's Magazine* is from the pen of Ernest Seton Thompson, a Canadian naturalist and artist, who, in his own line of field observation has won for himself an enviable place in the world of art and science. The sketch is called "Old Silverspot, the Story of a Crow," and the scene is cast on Castle Frank near Toronto, Canada. One recognizes with pleasure what good names these are to use in writing. Thomas Nelson Page contributes this year the serial to *Scribner's*, telling at last the story of the war from a southern point of view. There are as usual a couple of good short stories.

The third and last of the "Just-So Stories" appears in the present number of *St. Nicholas*. One has a certain dislike to be a perpetual Oliver Twist, but we hope Mr. Kipling will continue to tell Miss Kipling stories and to let the rest of us have the benefit of his insight and imagination. There have been lately a number of excellent tales of sport in the *St. Nicholas*, illustrating football, hockey, etc. This is a commendable departure. The jolly little rhymes continue to be one of the features of the magazine.

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C. D. Gibson has drawn a charming cover for the February number of *The Ladies' Home Journal*. One is continually hearing that Mr. Gibson's model is his wife, and again, that Mr. Gibson's model is not his wife, but at least she is a most serviceable model. There is nothing more interesting or instructive in this magazine at present than "The Inner Experiences of a Cabinet Member's Wife." It must give Washington people the sensation of skating over thin ice, and it is all so sadly true, like a photograph.

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In a recent number of *The Youth's Companion* there appeared an article written by the Hon. William Ewart Gladstone, notable for other reasons than for its authorship. It was a reminiscence of the friend of his youth, but better known to the world at large as the friend of Tennyson, Arthur Henry Hallam. Nothing can be more beautiful than the way in which the great man, looking back in the fulness of his age, repeats his early judgment that this was the greatest man he has ever known. Not all the fair, brave and great, live to evident fruition, there are those, even superior to the remainder, who pass away and leave a cloud of memory behind.