

Raoul, son of the Count de Rainault, is so severely wounded during an attack upon a castle, the *nidus* of his family, as to cause him to lose his memory. His adventures while in this condition, remembering nothing of his former life, furnish the burden of the story, and are exceedingly interesting. With the aid of Iron Hand, a gigantic peasant, he aids a distressed damsel to escape from her captors, and restores her to her mourning father. The circumstances arising out of this proceeding form a charming love episode. The knight from whose clutch Ysobel was rescued being vexed at her escape, resolves to capture her and take her back again. Never having seen her, he seizes in mistake her beautiful cousin Blanche, with whom he falls in love. Raoul, acquits himself so gallantly during his misfortunes as to stand out an unquestionable hero. The plot is not strained, the diction is choice, the leading characters are all life-like, real—what is more, since it makes the tone of the book wholesome, their character is their fate. When there is moral purpose in the portraiture of a fiction, and, broadly speaking, this happens whenever the wicked are punished and the virtuous rewarded, the novelist has a right to call himself a moralist.

THE ADVENTURES OF FRANÇOIS.

Silas Wei Mitchell, M.D., LL.D., is one of America's most worthy writers. He is a son of the Rev. Dr. J. K. Mitchell, of Philadelphia, in which city he was born February 15th, 1829. He was educated at the University of Pennsylvania and at Jefferson Medical College. As a specialist in nervous diseases, Dr. Mitchell enjoys a high reputation abroad as well as at home. For many years his name has been before the public as a writer of poetry and fiction. His works in fiction and poetry count up to more than a dozen, and he has done meritorious achievements in both methods of expression, yet it was not until the novel of "Hugh Wynne, Free Quaker," was published in 1897, that Dr. Mitchell acquired anything like literary fame.

The present story first appeared in the *Century Magazine*, and compared with "Hugh Wynne," it seems to reveal more of its author's powers. From the sub-title we learn that the hero played many parts in the course of his eventful life. He was "foundling, thief, juggler and fencing-master during the French