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### Hollyhock House

By MARION AMES TAGGART

(Mussion Book Co.)

THIS entertaining story, by the author of "The Little Gray House," and "Daughters of The Little Gray House," tells of the daily life, joys and adventures of three young girls.

When Florinel, the youngest of the three "Garden Girls," was just a year old, their mother, who before her marriage had been a singer and entertainer, elected to respond to the call of her art, and went to England, leaving her children to the more efficient guardianship of the Garden relatives, their legally appointed guardian, and the devotion of Anne Kensington, the housekeeper. The girls had never thought much about their mother, but they had gathered the impression that she "did not amount to much," and as time went on, they decided she must be dead. Then she loses her voice and comes back to them, as it were from the dead.

The story of the regeneration of a mother who, realizing all she has missed through separation from her charming, clever little daughters, resolves to do her best to be a real mother.

### Manual of Play

By BYRON FORBUSH

(G. W. Jacobs & Co.)

HOW few parents enter into the play-spirit of their children! Yet this sympathy with a child's little plays and games tends to a richer home life. The "Manual of Play" begins with suggestions for fitting up the home playroom and the home yard and gymnasium. It tells how children may express themselves freely in play, how they can play with their parents, and how their parents can help the children to play by themselves. It gives a carefully graded and annotated list of the best standard toys and occupations with approximate prices. The mental, social and moral value of play in the development of the child is emphasised.

### The Canadian Girls' Annual

(Cassell & Co., Limited)

THIS year's "Annual" excels itself in articles and short stories. The long complete story by Violet N. Methley, "The Little Countess of the Revolution," describes the adventures of a young girl caught in the whirlwind of the French Revolution. Other features are "A Father's Letters to His Daughter," "How to Choose a Career," "How to Choose a Hobby," "The Stamps of the Great War," and "The Schoolgirls of Jane Austin."

### Jinks and Betty

By MYRA T. REED

(Copp, Clark Co., Ltd.)

WITH their two dogs, trusty Mike and mischievous Robin Hood, Jinks and Betty have many joyful escapades. These two little playmates are simply bubbling over with fun all the time—but it is right-minded fun with the right influence. Each of the sixteen complete stories teaches some little lesson of obedience and kindness that costs the youthful heroes anxious moments. The thirty-nine charming illustrations are as interesting as the stories.

### The King's Highway Series

(The Macmillan Company)

THIS is a series of books containing stories and readings selected for their bearing on the vices and virtues as peculiar to the age of children of the different school grades. Two new volumes have recently been added to this series, "The Way of the Rivers" and "The Way of the Hills." Many of the excerpts will be enjoyed by children if the very evident moral does not defeat its own end.

### The Work and Play Books

(Gundy)

ELEVEN books with interesting things to do and to make, that are fun for every boy and girl. Each book gives interesting stories of what little groups of boys and girls have done, and leads the reader from point to point, until he has unconsciously imbibed the fundamental principles of many arts and crafts. These books, which contain a perfect mine of information, are, "Needlecraft," "Home Decoration," "Gardening," "Carpentry," "Electricity," "Mechanics," "Outdoor Work," "Working in Metal," "Guide and Index." The complete set is an encyclopædia in everything but form.

### NEW BOOKS FOR LITTLE TOTS

#### The Graymouse Family

NELLIE M. LEONARD

(Thomas Y. Crowell Co.)

MOTHER GRAYMOUSE and her six children lived in a cosy attic. Father Graymouse had lost his life some time before, but the mother managed to provide food for her little ones with the assistance of their jolly uncle, Squeaky, who always brought them something good to eat on his frequent visits.

This story is for the younger children, and is told with a good deal of humour. The mice have many adventures, and the story ends on Christmas Day with the mice dancing round a little cedar tree singing,

"Jolly little mice are we,  
Happy all day long,  
So we shout and sing with glee  
Our gladsome Christmas song."

#### Rinkitink in Oz

BY L. FRANK BAUM

(Copp, Clark Co., Ltd.)

THE hero of this new story, from the wonderful land of Oz, is Inga, the Boy Prince of Pingaree, who sets out to rescue his parents, who have been carried away by the cruel warriors of King Gos. To aid him in his search, he takes along Rinkitink, Bilbil the goat, and three magic pearls, which he promptly loses. The trials which follow prove too much for the brave boy, but Princess Dorothy of Oz and the Little Wizard arrive on the scene in Emerald City just in time to save the situation.

Like Mr. Baum's other stories, Rinkitink In Oz is full of wholesome, good-natured fun from start to finish.

### Two New Windermere Books

(Rand, McNally & Co.)

RAND, McNally and Company have brought out two additions to the popular Windermere Series, superbly illustrated in colour: "Alice in Wonderland" and "Through the Looking Glass," by Lewis Carroll, and "Andersen's Fairy Tales." The ever-popular Carroll stories, with such splendid illustrations by Mr. Winter, make an acceptable gift for both young and old, while the Andersen Fairy Tales will prove attractive to both parents and children. Each book has fourteen full page illustrations in colour.

Other titles in the Windermere Series are: "Arabian Nights Entertainments," "Grimm's Fairy Tales," "Robinson Crusoe," "A Wonder Book," "Treasure Island," "Tanglewood Tales," and "Gulliver's Travels."

"NO man has a right," said Henry Ward Beecher, "to bring up children without surrounding them with books. Books are the windows through which the soul looks out—a home without books is like a room without windows."

A liberal education in itself, the reading habit becomes a big factor in a child's mental development if parents use tact and judgment in suggesting good books to the boy or girl whose literary tastes are still unformed. Children brought up in a literary atmosphere take naturally to books. But beware of the juvenile dime novel, whether it be paper covered or bound in a neat, innocent, cloth binding. With the very best literature so cheap that it is within the reach of all, there is really no excuse for the lurid, impossible stories, which so many children read. Such books are useless rubbish. They stunt the taste for wholesome reading and drug the imagination, making it difficult to enjoy stories dealing with real people and real life.

The Boy Scouts have done good work in condemning books which they consider bad, and in suggesting good books instead.

Choose gift books for your children, as you would choose friends. These book playmates should be diversified in character—fiction, history, practical books on needlework, drawing, gardening, care of bees and flowers, wood carving, carpentry, metal work and electricity; books of play and books of work—but all selected with care and judgment to fit the individual tastes of the particular child for whom the gift is intended.

### Theodosia's Heartstrings

By ANNIE HAMILTON DONNELL

(William Briggs)

AFTER three years of wandering up and down the world in search of something to interest her, Miss Theodosia Baxter comes home to find it on her own front porch, in the form of a very much surprised child holding a baby on her lap. They were the Flagg children who lived in the poor little house next door—Baby Elly Precious and his little sister-nurse, Evangeline. "Isn't he a little darlin' dear?" she asked Miss Baxter. "Wouldn't you like to look at his toes? Elly Precious' toes are as pink as anything—an' six—yes'm. I've made considerable money out of his toes."

The eldest of the Flagg children, Stafana, undertakes to "white wash" Miss Baxter while her mother is away, in order to keep her washing from going elsewhere. Miss Theodosia, finding her delicate white dresses almost ruined, "sees red" for a moment, but remembering the poor child's burned thumbs and tired little back, her heart softens, and she surreptitiously washes out the starch and irons the things over.

How the quartette of youngsters in the little home reached the heart of Miss Theodosia, and brought romance into her life, makes a very charming story. Those who have read Mrs. Donnell's "Rebecca Mary" will welcome this new story, and be ready to love the ambitious Stafana, the irrepressible Evangeline, and Baby Elly Precious—christened Elihu Launcelot.

### Mary Louise

By EDITH VAN DYNE

(Reilly & Britton Co.)

THOSE who enjoyed reading "Aunt Jane's Niece" will welcome this new book by the same author. While distinctly a girl's book, "Mary Louise" will appeal to the older folk as well, for the heroine is a character whose personality makes a strong appeal. Mary Louise could not understand why "Gran'pa Jim" should be hiding, nor why he should have enemies. The more she thought of it, the more mysterious it seemed.

In this story there are all the elements of suspense and unexpectedness, without the sensational. It holds the reader's attention from the first page to the last.