

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

"SONGS of an English Esau" is the title of a very attractive little volume of verse, published by Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co., London. The author, our friend, Mr. Clive Philipps-Wolley, hardly needs an introduction to our readers. Few literary men are more widely known throughout the Province than he, and few have done more by their writings to popularize the country and advertise its resources. Many of the verses in this collection are familiar to us, two or three in fact, "Fooled" and "To Dr. George" have been published in the MINING RECORD, but in all, the keynote is the same. It is the voice of the strong singer—not always perhaps the sweet singer—but that of a truculent, forceful man, one nevertheless possessed of deep sympathetic feeling, and a large knowledge of nature. There are two distinct sides to Mr. Wolley's character, and those of us who know and understand him like and admire both. In a curious degree he combines the temperament of the sportsman and of the artist, and that is why he writes such delightful verse. Listen to this:

Colonial Esau? wouldst thou change thy pottage  
For Jacob's birthright, morning air for smoke—  
Take Jacob's palace for thy backwoods cottage,  
His fettered feet for thine which know no yoke.

His victories won for thy delight in winning,  
His wedded fortunes for the fate you woo,  
His work well ended for thy work beginning,  
Memories of deeds for deeds still left to do?

The tender lines "To My Wife" and "Seed Corn" might have been penned by Tennyson, the stirring sentiments in "England's Day" and "The Chain of Empire," "The Blooming of the Rose," and "To Britain's Grand Rounds," "The Sea Queen Wakes," have been uttered by Kipling in his moments of happiest inspiration. In "Failed," "The Worth of the Prize," "The Kootenay Prospector," and "Fooled" the grand lesson is taught, and that lesson is,—in better language than we are capable of clothing the sentiment:

You were not meant to win, God chose to pay  
Your life the price of some position won.  
What is it to the soldier, if the day  
Sets on his duty done.

And if there be no crown, is that you lost  
So priceless, now you see it from the goal?  
Is that thy won, worth half the work it cost?  
You may have won your soul.

The volume contains possibly a little too many references to colonial patriotism and loyalty. "The pride beyond all speech that seals our lips," to quote one of Mr. Wolley's own lines, aptly describes the attitude of the average Britisher. We don't talk about our love for our country and our flag. There is no need. But when the proper time comes we are not

backward as a rule in proving in deeds not by mere words that we are a patriotic nation. You will remember the story in "Stalky & Co." of the disgust and resentment of the school at being compelled to listen to the well-intentioned but vulgar vapourings of an under-bred member of Parliament who made "Patriotism" the subject of a discourse? It is true, perhaps, that when an Englishman leaves his motherland he becomes more demonstratively patriotic, and Mr. Wolley has made the most of that. One other word, the only other that can be said in the way of adverse criticism. To our mind, it would have been better if "An Invitation" had been excluded from the collection. Anybody might have written it.

Lead Smelting. The Construction, Equipment and Operation of Lead Blast Furnaces, and Observations on the Influence of Metallic Elements on Slags and the Scientific Handling of Smoke, by Malvern Wells Iles, Ph. D., etc. First edition. New York. John Wiley & Sons, London. Chapman & Hall, Limited, 1902. Price, cloth \$2.50. This work, by a man pre-eminent in his profession, will, we feel sure, be greatly appreciated by metallurgists. Dr. Iles is one of the pioneers of lead-smelting in the United States. He writes, therefore, with the experience of twenty years' practical work to his credit and possessed of a knowledge and grasp of his subject to an extent of which few men can lay claim. Although several well-known books have been published on smelting gold, silver and lead ores, the majority of these have not dealt with the hard problems which under varying conditions and environment are constantly met with in actual practice. In his present work the author endeavours to render practical assistance in the way of suggesting the best methods of overcoming such difficulties as they may arise. Nearly half the volume treats on the blast furnace, the chapter being sub-divided into sections, under such headings as "Drawings and Specifications," "Inne Lines," the "Foundations," "Water Jackets," "Power Plant," "Blowing-in," "Calculation of Charges," etc. And following chapters are occupied with a discussion of the influence of metallic elements on wall accretions, handling of smoke, metallurgical results, antimonial lead, roasting furnaces, smoke, the draft factor on lead blasting furnaces, on bag-house on hand roasting furnaces, on mechanical roasting furnaces, and on refinery furnaces. There is also a chapter on Fume Experiments and on the Bag House. What pleases us in particular is that the work contains no useless or unnecessary padding. The author plunges at once *in medias res*; he writes to the point and he manages to make his meaning clear and impart very valuable information in the fewest possible number of words.

## BOOKS RECEIVED.

Annual Report of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, showing the operations, expenditures and condition of the institution for the year ending June 30, 1901. Washington. Government Printing Office, 1902.