

would name the two books which, during the past year, they have read with most interest and pleasure."

MR. THOMAS HARDY : "Margaret L. Woods' 'Princess of Hanover.'"

(No other book was mentioned by Mr. Hardy.)

MR. MACKAIL, Professor of Poetry, Oxford, 1906-11, in *Lectures on Poetry*, 1911.

"Among all the rest there is a single poet and a single poem outstanding ; there were the creator and creation of a new Oxford poetry. The poet was Mrs. Woods, the poem 'Aëromancy.' This poem . . . captures and embodies the inmost spirit of Oxford. Without any disastrous loss of either form or colour, the artist, working in a medium where a language approximately reaches the effect of music, is able to give a new expression to atmosphere and emotion. The poet piercing further inward below the surface, draws the spirit of poetry from deeper recesses. . . . The music of the poetry calls out, attaches, gathers up about that point, the spirit of Oxford and makes it speak."

SOME PRESS OPINIONS

THE PRINCESS OF HANOVER

"It remained for Mrs. Woods to see the great poetic significance of the story [of Sophia Dorothea of Zell, Princess of Hanover] and its dramatic contrasts of love and hate, squalor and beauty, romantic passion and the most sordid pettiness of an intriguing court. . . . The tale is told with much spirit and vigour by Mrs. Woods . . . it abounds with passages of rare beauty and charm which ought once for all to settle the question whether the author, who long since won a considerable position as a novelist, is a poet as well. . . . To our mind, however, it is in the more passionate parts of the play, which describe events