

lightest of his stories 'The Spectacles,' the lightness depends on the incidents of the story, not on the manner in which it is told.

One of the author's most decided tastes was for all forms of mystification. The tales and stories which have been placed in the semi-scientific or philosophical class depend for their interest chiefly upon the unravelling of some mystery or enigma. The most noted of his works of this kind are 'The Gold Bug' 'The Chess Players,' 'Marie Roget,' and 'Murder Rue Morgue.'

Poe is the most remarkable of American literary geniuses, a many-sided man who could write well on any topic. His works are not disfigured by local color, and for the most part can be appreciated by all. They are written for all. In his studies of the dark side of human life he never descends to the Zolaesque level to give us a parallel to that reeking series of 'Rougon Macquart' stories. Though he loved the black domain of night and courted the company of her grim and weird retinue, he needs no apology. He is fast becoming known as the greatest universal genius America has produced, and in assigning to his prose tales the high place that is their due, it is not necessary to beg that they be considered in the light of charity, but in that of simple justice.

J. J. '06.

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### Synonyms.

"And the man gave names to all cattle, and to the fowls of the air, and to every beast of the field."

This was the beginning of language, that wonderful gift of God, possessed only by the rational being, the instrument by which he communicates with his fellow-men. Soon Adam and Adam's descendants went further. They did not limit their nomenclature alone to the "cattle," the "fowls of the air," and the "beasts of the field." Every existing thing found a name by which it was known and spoken of, so that, by the time the confounding of tongues at the Tower of Babel took place, we may undoubtedly suppose no distinct entity of which they were cognizant was without its particular appellation. Then, as the race advanced in culture and civilization, the minds of men became more precise, and cap-