

mutilated reproduction of a poem written by an American some years ago. As a wholesale plagiarist in this, as well as in other portions of his work, some considerable acquaintance with English literature is exhibited—one redeeming feature, at least. Haggard's English gentlemen in "Jess" are also slightly inconsistent. John Neil, who typifies English nobility, honor, and manhood, wins the heart of an innocent girl, is absent from her a month, rescuing her sister and cursing fate when he finds her, has misconstrued his former feelings, becomes infatuated with No. 2, declares his passion, utterly regardless of all former protestations, sees the latter dead, and marries No. 1. He often looks out upon a peaceful English scene after this, and hopes to meet No. 2 (his beloved wife's sister) awaiting him at Heaven's gates. Grand type of nobility that, John. All Mr. Haggard's male characters are giants in their way, either men of wonderful size and strength in proportion, or smaller men of extraordinary latent powers. He never seems to have met with common mortals at all; apparently he is not on intimate terms with H. Rider Haggard. His descriptions are well enough written. Geographical details, however, are neither brilliantly lucid nor particularly edifying to readers of another hemisphere. It is just, possible, though, he writes for the Boers. He is a good specimen of a bore himself.

His philosophy is all guess, his Heaven all "if," his hell, "may be." He poses as a fence-straddler between belief in the Deity, reward and punishment, and belief in nothing, and take your choice, exhibiting just enough of the former to show his desire to obtain readers from both sides, and enough of the latter to make his moral cowardice and deception the more highly worthy of condemnation. His style will do in place of a better. That ghastly romance, "She," made him notorious, and now the public are treated with his dregs. On the whole, there may be worse books, but we would not advise any protracted enquiry after them.

EXCERPTS.

PRESIDENT ANGELL, of Michigan University, states: "Out of 4,106 students, the parents of 502 were farmers, 171, merchants, 93, lawyers, 83, physicians, 52, manufacturers, 54, mechanics, and 51, clergymen." He estimates that as many as 45 per cent. belonged to the class who gain their living by manual toil. The sons and daughters of the rich, he says, do not form a very large percentage of the whole number.—*Copied.*

A POET sent to an editor a contribution entitled, "Why do I live?" The editor replied, "Because you sent your contribution by mail, instead of bringing it."

It is principle and precept, not an estate, that makes a man good for something.—*Aurelius Antonius.*

A HARVARD professor has made the calculation that if men were really as big as they sometimes feel, there would be room in the United States for only two professors, three lawyers, two doctors, and a reporter on a University of Pennsylvania paper.—*Colby Echo.*

THE new edition of J. R. Green's "Short History of the English People," revised by Mrs. Green, is now among the announcements of McMillan & Co., and the information is given that upward of 126,000 copies of the work have been sold since its first publication in 1874.—*Christian Union.*

To reverence and honor thy own mind will make thee contented with thyself.—*Aurelius Antonius.*

OF six young ladies whose education at Vassar cost \$10,000 each, five married one-horse lawyers, and have to give music lessons to make a living for the family. The other is still single, but leaning toward a country parson on a salary of \$320 per year.—*Colby Echo.*

This seems a large outlay to secure the qualifications of a "one-horse" music teacher.

It was lately said of a self-sufficient reformer, in words that many persons might well lay to heart:—

And so every day he gave the Almighty
Advice which he deemed of great worth;
And his wife took in sewing
To keep things a-going
While he superintended the earth.

The Churchman.

SOME excitement was caused the other day in Boston by the announcement that Mr. Howells was in a critical condition, but when it was remembered that it is Mr. Howells's professional duty to be so, prayer of thanks were offered up because his state was not hypercritical. Frank R. Stockton writes with a stub pen. Edgar Fawcett writes with a lead pencil and eraser. His best work is done with the eraser. Charles Egbert Craddock writes with the feather end of a quill. Robert Browning has a pet spider that does all his writing for him.—*Life.*

PERSONALS.

MISS MARY A. WADSWORTH lectured, with success, before a Canning audience during the holidays. Subject:—"Temperance."

J. H. JENNER, of the Class of '89, has lately been ordained at Brookfield, N. S.

WILLIAM HORACE McKENNA, '89, after a somewhat protracted absence, is again with us. During the autumn months he was attached to Amherst as a Grade B. pedagogue.