

# Esther Gould's Book Corner

## AND THEY ALL LIVED

### "THE ETERNAL CIRCLE"

By Jay William Hudson  
D. Appleton & Co.

Those who long to see the first love triumph in the end, to see the humble inarticulate lover get the lady of his dreams, will enjoy "The Eternal Circle" by the author of the delightful "Abbe Pierre."

Jared Phelps was a youth of many dreams who allowed them to become tarnished after he left Harvard. Instead of pursuing literature, he pursued medicine, and when his old college friend, Bob Vance, came to teach philosophy in the university in the former's home town, he found his friend a firmly entrenched physician and cynic.

Then enter the woman next door. The two men resented the house being built there, but when the fair occupant arrives with her brother, it takes them only about two weeks to fall collectively in love. But the fair one, Dorothy by name, does not fall in love collectively, or singly, for the present. She is one of those people described by the author as "pure" and "saintly" who calls forth as much sympathy from us as the man in the top hat from the boy with the snowball.

Jared, the impulsive one, is the finally accepted suitor, while Bob eats out his heart in loyal silence. But enter upon the scene Madeline Worthington, Jared's first love who jilted him years ago for another. Now, disillusioned and unhappy, she turns to Jared as her one true friend.

And the eternal circle begins to turn back on itself. Jared the man, begins to turn back to the loyalties, the ideals, the dreams of his youth. Our sympathy is decidedly with Jared and Madeline and their success, though we are mildly pleased when Dorothy discovers that she was mistaken, it was not Jared she had loved after all but Bob. So they all live happily ever after.

## IF I WERE YOU

### "DOCTOR TRANSIT"

By I. S. Boni & Liveright

A mad, effervescent topsyturvy book is this "Doctor Transit" by the anonymous "I. S." Words pour out upon the page as startlingly, sometimes as incongruously, as a box of blocks emptied all at once upon the floor. The hero casually meets a friend and a young lady on the street: "She leaned on her stick making of her lowered eyes a parapet; over them piled shrill, yellow hair—over the small dammed forehead. She laughed sluttishly with garish mouth and the lure ended. Brusquely, almost savagely, he unclasped the man's arms and

thrust them in a committing disdain upon the woman. He heard them discordantly retreating; and he went home noticing the mild delirium of nightfall."

During the entire reading of the book we feel that we are in the grip of a "mild delirium."

Dr. Transit is a great scientist. In fact he is said to be himself a "chemical product" and not a normal human being at all. He has performed many miracles of science but never the one of dying and coming back to life which is to be the final experiment, but for which he has never had the courage.

But in the course of his experimentation he has discovered a marvellous potion which will make women men, and men women. John and Mary, a young married couple, decided to have the change tried on them. They became Joan and Marlow. Marlow likes the change but Joan gets restive in a few years and is changed back. He doesn't become John again but a new person, Jeremiah. And he seems to think that having been three persons gives him the right to discourse three times as much as other people on life and love, particularly love. Which he does with remarkable abandon.

The author has an intensely dramatic gift and a command of words which is not only startlingly original but extremely poetic.

## WIVES OF GREAT MEN ALL REMIND US

### "WIVES"

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Harper & Bros.

Gamaliel Bradford has chosen an excellent theme for his book of swiftly drawn portraits of seven American women. "Wives" of famous and infamous men in our history offer a lure to our curiosity as strong as the peek-

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E. P. Dutton & Co. New York

ing behind the scenes of the stage. Years cannot dampen our ardor to know what Abraham Lincoln really felt about that much maligned, overpraised, underrated, round faced little person who was his wife. On this extremely open question, Mr. Bradword can give us little actual satisfaction, to be sure, but he can state the case for each extreme and suggest the safer middle course.

The women connected with the two great romantic traitors, Benedict Arnold and Aaron Burr, were far greater and more worthy to be remembered than the men who fixed them in our memories. In both cases Mr. Bradword paints a picture of a great deal of pathos, nobility and beauty.

In the others, women who have perhaps less of the romantic lure, Mrs. James Madison, Mrs. Jefferson Davis, Mrs. Benjamin Butler, and Mrs. James G. Blaine, the author has given us very human figures.

We have come to look to Mr. Brad-

ford for a certain kind of biography which is sincere, witty and sometimes brilliant. In "Wives" he has not disappointed us."

## WINNETKA SCHOOL FACTS

Research—General:

The Winnetka public schools are probably the only ones in the world organized throughout for scientific research education.

are attempting to base their curriculum and methods on scientific investigation rather than pedagogical theory.

have contributed liberally to the literature of the science of education.

were the first public schools to receive grants for research from the Commonwealth Fund in New York.

## The Gay City

by Arthur Phillips

A guide to the fun of Paris . . . . 175

Brentano's—Chicago

## MY LIFE AS AN EXPLORER

By Sven Hedin

Science actually knows more about the Poles than the interior of Asia. In the unveiling of this vast and fascinating Terra Incognita, the greatest part has been played by the intrepid explorer, Sven Hedin, whose autobiography is equally fascinating as a life story and a book of travel.

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