## EMILY'S WANDERINGS IN HADES

The Most Respectable Sketch in "The Undertaker's Garland," a Gruesome Volume by Messrs. Wilson and Bishop, Recounts the Adventures of Emily, an American Ghost, in the Phantom Under-World.

By Prof. W. T. Allison.

Xerxes, I suppose men haw-hawed aim." over pleasant japes concerning the prose, most of it witty, all of it im- earth did not trouble to welcome he of all themes. Bound in black and er acrimonious debate with purple, and illustrated in a ghoulish shade of the headmistress of decade, in fact I believe that nothing ther is one of the happiest portion whole thing seems to me like a -- "She recognized her mother written by the bold, bad descend- at the back of her head. She had authors are young Americans not pressingly old-fashioned and had in the war and both have been on imitated her grandmother in this. the staff of "Vanity Fair" at one brushing her thin hair straight back time or another.

Emily's Trip Through Hades. The flower in this ghastly gar- in the way she wore her hair. river. She sees a clumsy boat and of her usefulness and the sense makes her way to it. Old Charon is her duties discharged." sitting there, regarding her without interest from dim and lifeless eyes, Emily Refuses to Stay As he gazes upon her, Emily suddenly becomes aware that she has

It is true he could not land his pas- self again in the grey." sengers at any dock; owing to the shallowness of the water on the far Love Amid the Twilight and Mists. Pomp of Power," turns out to be the seventh chapter, and Kingston readcaught a human shape that passed especially his remarks about the war, fully in their faces, she recognized by wanted him to. So they sat down town where she had been born. They to caress her. But she could neither were an elderly married couple, who feel his lips nor his arms. Then it

nature, such its bravado, that death woman she was glad to note, wore and the grave are often made the a night-gown like her own, having subject of jest and the sexton and died respectably in bed. They had the undertaker regarded as comic never been very happy together, but figures. The last funny story I they now walked side by side, as if heard was gruesome in character, from sheer force of habit. Neither for it played around the deathbed turned to Emily nor spoke; she of a Scot who was such a long time could not even tell whether they had dying that he wore out the patience seen her. They passed on and disof his good wife. There are few of solved in the shadows, two lifeless. us who have not heard jokes about colorless beings, wandering slowly funerals. In the days of Cheops or and in silence, without interest or

dissolution of the ancient mother- Emily Finds Her Mother and Aunts in-law. But rarely does it happen Emily felt huffed because people that a whole volume of verse and whom she had known intimately on plous in tone, is devoted to what or express sorrow that she had died with most people is the most solemn so young. But after she had a rathstyle by Boris Artzibasheff, "The boarding school which she attended Undertaker's Garland," by John in girlhood days, she received some Peals Bishop and Edmund Wilson, thing of a welcome from a circle of Jr., (The Macmillan Company, Tor- relatives whom she chanced to find. onto), is one of the oddest books The account of this meeting and the that has come my way in a whole dialogue between Emily and her mo-Mke it has ever been published in of this interesting fantasy. How did this country, nor perhaps ever will Emily know that she was in the presbe again. Owing to the flippancy ence of her mother? I can imagine of tone and the Aubrey Beardsley that I can see the smile of every wotype of illustration in this book, the man reader as Mr. Wilson explains. hang-over from the eighteen-nine- once, though she was approaching ties when "The Yellow Book" was her from behind, by the little hard in flower. It could not have been knob of black hair which she wore ants of that period, however, for the always felt that this knob was delong out of Princeton. Both served ten wondered why her mother had

and parting it in the middle." ily soon discovered that her mother had changed as little in character as land which will attract most inter- mother raised solemnly upon Emily est is a sketch by Mr. Wilson entitl- her large and gentle eyes, in which ed, "Emily in Hades." Possibly it was neither happiness nor sorrow, they will bitterly regret the publica- Stidger also has monthly Book Pray- response, for the human heart is ever he was deep in Virgil. At any rate a mild sort of wonder. Her long his ground conception of the lower pre-occupation in dife with kitchens world is that of the ancient poet, al- and house-work and furniture and though the only character that he the more physical aspects of the care picks up from classical story is of her husband and children had in-Charon, the surly ferryman. We vested her with the soulless dignity pass over the circumstances of Em- of a plain mahogany bed; and, now fly's death during the influenza epi- that she had come to Hades, where demic, leave her bereaved husband there was nothing more for her to sitting by the bedside, and follow do, she seemed ready to sit through her ghost as she advances through eternity, as if she were a chest of a grey mist to the bank of the grey drawers, content in the conviction

When Emily glided into the fam nothing on but a night-gown and lly circle beside her grandmother. that her hair is down her back, mother, and cunts, her mother ex-When he tells her to get in, so that claimed, "Why Emily! I didn't exhe can take her over to Hades, she pect you so soon." When the daughprotests that she is not dressed, only ter told the mother what she had A girlish imperial city to be told that it does not matter, died of, the latter sighed, "What a She accepts his lackadaisical invita- pity! And you married so well, With a robe of golden English brook tion, and, as he pulls on his oars, too." But the mother showed no she peers at him through the shad- real grief; Emily found her discon owy and uncertain atmosphere, certingly calm. After she had made Lovely with old-world leisure Charon is dressed in old and weather- some enquiries as to how other memworn clothes, as colorless as the bers of the family were getting along In youthful pride of dominion barge, and rows with infinite weari- in their earth-life, the mother conness and indifference. As she asks cluded, "Well, it's nice to have you Watching the liners come and go question after question, being ans- here. You can just sit around with wered politely but languidly and us here and after awhile the others accinctly by the old boatman. Em- will be along and then we'll all be She is crowned with ivy and laurel fly comes to the conclusion that together." But the idea of a nice. Fresh from an ageless spring; Hades is a dreary sort of place. "She long rest did not appeal to Emily's Tales of the East and news of the Primate of All Canada is to be would have thought it might at least active mind. Besides a half hour of have been horrible or in some other her aunt's society was about enough way exciting. If Charon had only for her. So with brutal directness And all her beauteous days go by, been kindly, or hateful, or grand, in- she informed the whole family cirstead of being simply indifferent cle that she was going to move on, and stultified by his work! Her for she did not wish to stay with thrill of adventure faltered; was them. "You kept me with you all death going to be just like life? \_\_ my life," she said, "You tried to With touch of the velevt tropics She did not often indulge in thrills, make me think that our little famhaving learned that nothing ever the was the whole world. I never lo be forgottenhappens. If you thrilled in antici- went anywhere and I never found nation, you were sure to be disap- out anything. You made me believe pointed. So Emily found life, and that all I had to do to be desirable probably death was no different.... for some one to marry was not to do Shaw of Dunfermline during his re- tinctive problems and needs of a But presently she spoke again; certain things-not to be 'unlady- cent visit to this country was "The country like Canada have called for "Isn't there any music in Hades?" like'. I remember that, when I was Romance of Western Canada" by some modification and amplification 'No,' he answered, 'No music.' Af- a little girl, you warned me just as Rev. Dr. R. G. Macbeth of Vancouv- of the Prayer Book. This book is a ter a moment's pause, she went on: impressively as if it had been one of er. He stated that he was "charm- most delightful study of such alter-"Tell me," she said, 'how shall I ever the commandments that I must nev- ed with its solid grip of history and additions. find the people, when I arrive over cr look into a barber shop when I its admirable presentation of a The first portion of the book is there?' 'I shall land you where you was passing by in the street." To thrilling story." A second edition mainly historical and biographical, this and other criticisms the mother of Dr. Macbeth's most recent work, and describes the origin and progress made a garrulous defence, but Em- "Policing the Plains," is being pub- of the Canadian revision movement Two Shapes Loom Out of the Fog. ily was inexorable. "She left them lished by Hodder and Stoughton this during the last two or three decades. Charon was as good as his word. with phantom kisses and lost her- fall.

shore he was obliged to ask her to We judge from tols narrative work of an expatriated Canadian, ers will be intensely amused by Dr. do a little wading. She did not like 'tat when smily was alive she was Mr. Laurence Lyon, who for some Patterson-Smyth's poetical descripthe idea but was reconciled when he pover passionately in love with her years has been practising law in Lon- tion of the hard-working Divines who told her that she would not be able but and. For she was very pleased don, For three years Mr. Lyon was in 1912 slaved at their task in spite to feel the water. So she descended when she met, soon after leaving her M.P. for Hastings, but during re- of the lure of invitations to an atinto the water and made for shore. family, the ghost of a coung man cent years has resided principally in tractive picule at the Thousand Is-She could not feel that the water whom she had secretly loved in the Paris. He is now writing a second lands, Kind hearted Kingston friends was chill nor that the shore was days before her marriage, and who volume, hoping that he will be able tried in value to lead the enslaved firm. She made progress, however, called occasionally to see her in to spring another big sensation by scholars to the promised land of a and found that she was on a kind of those good old days before the war, revealing sayings and doings of well deserved holiday. flat wide plain with a misty horizon. Poor fellow he had gone to France, prominent politicians. "She found it was rather like a fog; had been killed, and now as he adyou could not see immediately vanced to her through the fog she around you, but you could not, ex- could see a black bullet wound in cept by glimpses, see anything very his breast. After a good deal of far away. Once she thought she conversation, all of it interesting. obscurely at a distance and she hur- they exchanged confidences. He ried on in terror. Then, right upon told her that he now regretted that her, two shapes seemed to come he had never made love to her while around a corner and passed quite they were on earth. She told him close at her side; and, staring fear- that he should have, that she realthem as people she had known in the together on the ground and he tried had used to come to dinner some-times. The man was still wearing have-been gave both of them the the suit he had had on when he was keenest anguish. In the following killed in a motor accident, on an el- passage, Mr. Wilson forgets for a ection night celebration; and he moment that he is a satirist and was still displaying in his lapel an strikes a note of real pathos, "And enormous celluloid button with the then she realized suddenly that she

sudden terrible grief, that she was only a shadow herself, that her flesh world of twilight and mists."

Mr. Wilson did not fill his share of or, propagandist, pamphleteer. the volume with the wanderings of the imaginary Emily in the imaginmanity or any fear of God. These young Princeton graduates are cynics who have long since said in their description of the exhumation of an American soldier from a battle-field

in France is absolutely naseating. is blasphemous. Both these writers inent clergyman of Detroit, to preach painstaking effort on the part of the have great gifts of imagery and of his first "dramatic book sermon," style but it is tragic to see them put and the interest it aroused has led the Red Cross work of the county, to such base uses. They have evi- to Dr. Stidger preaching a regular the honor roll of the county and an dently sold themselves to Mephisto- series of book-sermons once a month. pheles and just now they may think His audience often numbers five other kindred organizations. themselves very clever, as indeed thousand, and he finds that the serthey are, but it is better to be good mons not only creats widespread in- that will most of all endear it to han clever, and I feel sure that

-W. T. ALLISON.

Literary Notes. Bliss Carman was a conspicuous figure at the recent David Thompson sion not only his poem in honor of both school teachers. Padraic Pearse, the early explorer, but eight lyrice the leader of the Easter week reregarding our laureate's impressions bellion of 1916, was a headmaster of of western Canada. One of the best a boys' school. Thomas McDonough, of these poems is entitled "Victor- one of the men who were executed la," and is as follows:-

Where the traveller looks Saanich.

Fair is the sight he sees. Spreading about her knees.

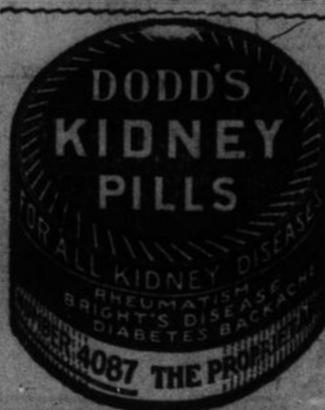
Gracing her modest state. She sits by the western gate. Through Juan de Fuca Strait.

North Her sheltered sea-lanes bring;

Soft as a grey gull's wing.

Child of the strong adventure, Bred to the clean and fine, And eyes with the Northern shine, reason for such changes, thereby giv-Last of the Sea-King's line.

A new star of great lustre in the



would never have another chance—| English Merary firmament is Mr. | sponsibility and service in the home. that she was nothing but a poor Philip Guedella, author of a volume school, church and community. An ghost, a bodiless, passionless shad- of brilliant essays, "Supers and Su- excellent graded book-list for girls ow! She had told herself up to now permen." These are largely histor- and leaders is given in the closing that the languid people she had met ical. A new book by this writer, chapter of this practical handbook. were all old and stupid people, who "The Second Empire," deals with were dead things before they died. the life and reign of Napoleon III. But, in the presence of this young Mr. Guedella produces literary and How I Carried the Message to Garcia. man, who might once have thrilled historical essays as a recreation. His her with his touch, but who stirred chief energy is devoted to law and her less now than a lover she might politics. Some Englishmen believe D. Harney publisher. 32 pages. merely have imagined when alive, that he will one day succeed Mr. Asshe knew with sickening despair and quith as leader of the Liberal party.

would never live again, that she must tracting some more nuggets from walk among indifferent wraiths till the sands of time. He is preparing she became as indifferent as they- "A Short History of Mankind," which a wisp of spirit lost forever in a will probably be as great a money- yet modestly by Colonel Rowan—the maker as his "Outline of History." Here are a few names which friends Mephisto Might Have Written This and foes have called this industrious President McKinley's message to the Georgian writer, Crusader, fantastic leader of the Cuban insurgents. Emily met other people in Hades romancer, powerful electric starter and always found something inter- for international mind-motors, born ing and is deserving of a circulation sting to talk about. I cannot fol- story-teller, inexhaustible playmate. believer in fairles, articulate man of by saying how much I regret that the people, artist, reformer, invent- described and thrilling adventures in

ary lower world. I think that he often disagree. Sir William Robertand his partner, Mr. Bishop, should son Nicoli cannot bear Professor Lea- author and hero of this episode. be ashemed of much of what they cock's brand of humor, but Mr. Gueno doubt consider to be very clever della, who is quite as keen as Nicoll, The War Work of Lennox and Addpoetry and prose in "The Under- says, "I have the liveliest admiration taker's Garland." I grant that is it for that best of modern humorists. clever, but it is very offensive to any Stephen Leacock. He is probably reader who has any regard for hu- the best thing Canada has ever ex- Society by Walter S. Herrington,

hearts that there is no God. "The "The Story of Mankind." has been Funeral of Mary 'Magdalene," the awarded the John Newberry medal, first selection, is abominably coarse which is to be given annually by the and an insult to every Christian read- Children's Labrarians' Section of the er "The Death of a Soldier" is ob- American Literary Association for epitome of what took place all over scene, "Resurrection," a Zolasque the most distinguished contribution the dominion, and is valuable as de-

erage attendance of five hundred.

To achieve note as a literary man pageant on the shores of Lake Win- or a revolutionary leader in Ireland. demere, B.C. This was his second it is apparently necessary to be visit to the far west and with com- schoolmaster. The most prominent mendable enterprise the Vancouver contemporary Irish men of letters. "Province" published on that occa- Daniel Corkery and James Joyce, are with Pearse, was a teacher in Pearse's school. Joseph Plunkett another of the Easter week leaders from was a teacher. De Valera was a pro fessor at the Dublin University, as is Professor McNeil, the speaker of the Dail. Miss Mary McSwiney, sister of the Lord Mayor of Cork, who m died of a hunger strike in a London jail, is a teacher.

-W. T. A.

The Story of the Canadian Revision of the Prayer Book. By W. J. Ar:nitage, D.D., Ph.D. Cambridge at the University Press, Toronto, McClelland and Stewart Ltd. 442 Pages.

/ An enthusiastic commendation by found at the commencement of this very valuable contribution to ecclesiastical literature. The book itself is intended to be a companion to the Revised Book of Common Prayer of the Church of England in Canada. The larger portion of the volume gives the actual changes effected and ing the Canadian edition a new value and interest to anglicans and others throughout the dominion. For years One of the books read by Lord it has been felt by many that the dis-

The serious discussion of the subject gives place to two or three pages That much-discussed book, "The of genuine humor occurring in the

Archdeacon Armitage has done his work remarkably well and the entire church will be enriched by this able treatment of the subject.

Canadian Girls in Training. Prepared by the National Girl's Work Board of the Religious Education Council of Canada, Toronto, The Ryerson Press. 236 pages. Price 31.

This is an ideal book for placing to the hand of teachers and leaders of teen-age girls. A high conception of of before girls. The four-fold life, physical, intellectual, spiritual and social, as outlined in the first chapter, forms the basis of a study that is as pempathetic as it is helpful to girlhood. Adequate attention is devoted to mid-week activities and the girls are taught the meaning of re-

By Colonel Andrew Summers Rowan, San Francisco, Cal. Walter Price 25 cents.

Many of us have read Elbert Hubbard's "Message to Garcia," which Mr. H. G. Wells is at present ex- appeared several years ago. It is, therefore, with considerable interest that we now read the details of the incident itself, narrated vividly and fellow by the name of Rowan, who without asking questions, carried

This booklet is intensely interestequal to that of Hubbard's famous contribution. Nature scenes are well Cuban jungles and on the sea captivate the attention of the reader from Critics, like doctors and divines, start to finish. In one of the front pages, there is a fine portrait of the

Published under the auspices of the Lennox and Addington Historical K.C., F.R.S.C., president, and Rev. A. Mr. Hendrik Van Loon, author of Napanee, Ontario. The Beaver Press. J. Wilson, B.A., B.D., secretary,

nox and Addington. It is really an to American literature for children. monstrating the splendid service rendered by the boys who came from It was William Allen White's nov- farm and office to rally to Britain's The Death of the Last Centaur" is el, "In the Heart of a Fool," that aid in the great war. The compilalecherous, and "The Death of God" inspired Dr. Wm. L. Stidger, a prom- tion of this volume is the result of publishers. It contains a record of account of the patriotic fund and

Perhaps the section of the book terest in books but are very success- many citizens is the part headed "In twenty years from now, when, let us ful in promoting the sale of books Memoriam." The brief biographical hope, a mild wisdom will have dis- by the women's committee at their sketches here given are splendidly Book Table after the service. Dr. done. They will evoke a universal tion of most of the material in "The er-Meetings, at which members of responsive to thrilling heroism and the congregation report on books devotion, the products of the finest supplied to them by the pastor, and characteristics of humanity. Five these prayer-meetings attract an av- full-page reproductions of appropriate photographs are given.

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