

SHORT CUTS

Alcohol and Longevity. By Raymond Pearl. Alfred A. Knopf.

Careful statistics tending to show that, while heavy drinkers have lower expectations of life than abstainers, moderate drinkers do not, and, at least in Baltimore in the cases studied, appear to live slightly longer.

The Meaning of a Liberal Education. By Everett Dean Martin. W. W. Norton & Co.

A simple enlightened exposition of the statement that "education is emancipation from herd opinion, self-mastery, capacity for self-criticism, suspended judgment, and urbanity."

Benjamin Franklin: The First Civilized American. By Philips Russell. Brentano's.

There is little that is new in this book, but it is lively, and it gives to the general public a good many facts which have hitherto been the private consolation of scholars. The epithet "civilized" in the title is used rather as Voltaire than as Victoria would have understood it.

Samuel Butler and His Family Relations. By Mrs. R. E. Garnett. E. P. Dutton & Co.

"A diffident, affectionate, generous nature I read in him, warped for life by the repressions and severities of his childhood."

Collected Poems of Thomas Hardy. Macmillan Co.

More drama in fewer words than any other English poet has ever been able to contrive.

The Oxford Book of Eighteenth Century Verse. Edited by David Nichol Smith. Oxford University Press.

Something like justice at last is done to the witty and charming century which its ardent and experimental successor undervalued.

Enough Rope. By Dorothy Parker. Boni & Liveright.

This is what they call light verse. There ought to be more of it. There will seldom be much as good.

Shadows Waiting. By Eleanor Carroll Chilton. John Day Co.

A lovely, civilized, affecting, and satisfying novel.

Wild Goslings. By William Rose Benét. George H. Doran Co.

Jolly nonsense (sensible, too) about books and near-books.

Our Debt to Greece and Rome: Lucian. By F. G. Allison. **Modern Traits in Old Greek Life.** By C. B. Gulick. **Æschylus and Sophocles.** By J. T. Sheppard. Longmans, Green & Co.

Handsome themes treated with unmistakable though not quite uniform mediocrity. The third of these books is better than the others.

The Frontier in American Literature. By Lucy Lockwood Hazard. Thomas Y. Crowell Co.

An industrious survey of the conspicuously "native" elements in the literature under consideration. Miss Hazard in her critical method inclines toward the wholesome, the hearty, and the muddled.

The Cowboy and His Interpreters. By Douglas Branch. D. Appleton & Co.

A pleasant addition to the literature which is growing into a substantial cairn in honor of a vanishing type.

Sex and the Love-Life. By William J. Fielding. Dodd, Mead & Co.

A convenient handbook which is not, however, entirely without the touches of solemnity which such works seem incapable of avoiding.