

will see that the true happiness of life is not in devising schemes of power, but in realizing in themselves the common aspirations of the race.

Just as in the great literature there come to expression the great emotions of mankind, so in politics there come to realization the great actions of mankind, so that men are partners with each other in the hopeful enterprises of human perfection and the hopeful enterprises of justice to which all government is consecrated. Let us not be jealous of the radicalism which seeks to derive all our forces from this single root of perfection.

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L'ENVOI OF HOUSE CLEANING.

(With apologies to Kipling.)

Laura Simmons in "The Circle."

When Earth's last picture is dusted,
And the floors are painted and dried—
When the oldest carpet is beaten,
And the youngest spider has died—

We shall rest, and faith, we shall need it;
Lie down for a moment or two—
Till the dust on the grand piano
Shall set us to work anew.

We shall have real paint to lean on;
Pile everything into the hall,
And scrub for hours at a sitting—
And never be tired at all!

And they that are clean shall be happy;
They shall eat off a kitchen chair,
And splash with a seven-foot dust mop
At the back of the chiffoniere.

And the Man of the house may praise us—
But shall (more than probably) blame;
And we never shall get any money—
(And certainly not any fame.)

But each for the joy of the cleaning,
And each in her feminine glee
To look just as well as the neighbors,
For the sake of Things They Might See!

BOOKS

CONSERVATION.

Irrigation and soil productiveness will probably be the most important factors of industrial development in the immediate future in our country. For this reason "The Conservation of the Natural Resources of the United States," by Charles R. Van Hise, of the University of Wisconsin, is of peculiar interest; and not only to technical engineers, but also to farmers and political economists. It is apparently without a rival among books, for information covering the principles and the principal facts pertaining to our natural re-

sources and their relation to our industrial development.

The settlement of open prairies, available as agricultural lands without irrigation, is complete. What remains of public land is either mountain or desert (including semi-arid land in the latter), and useless without irrigation. Largely for this reason the people of the United States are turning more and more to manufacturing as a means of livelihood; and this movement can be balanced off with agriculture only by governmental development. If left to private capital, the necessity for immediate returns on money invested in any given drainage area, will tend to limit irrigation and water power projects to the cream of that area, which may represent a very low percentage of its possibilities. The government can develop fully and wait many years if need be for investment returns. But if government is to undertake that work, it is essential to success that public opinion understand the questions involved. This book opens the door to more serious thought along this line than anything heretofore written.

Natural resources are doubtless more abundant than we can realize: as lumber disappears, for instance, cement comes in to take its place. But Nature's generosity is no excuse for human waste. Thriftlessness regarding natural resources must be stopped. The day cannot be far off when we shall be expected to use and conserve our resources through advances in scientific knowledge. It is scientific knowledge, indeed, that makes Nature inexhaustibly responsive to human needs. Not from waste of lumber has cement come, but from scientific interrogations of Nature; and herein Conservation travels double with Discovery.

F. L. CRANFORD.

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EVERY'S HISTORY.

A History of the United States and Its People. From their Earliest Records to the Present Time. By Elroy McKendree Avery. In Sixteen Volumes. Volume VII. Published by The Burrows Brothers Company, Cleveland, Ohio.

Beginning with the campaign for adoption of the Constitution, with the making of which the sixth volume closed,* the seventh volume of Avery's series of sixteen carries the story of the American federation of States down to 1806.

The current which, before that century closed, turned the federation into the centralized Nation which the title of this work hints at grammatically in its use of the singular pronoun instead of the plural for the United States, had then begun to set in. Hamilton's financial policy is of course presented, and with fair judgment, and so is the development of new political parties. As an historical study of the way in which political

*See current volume, page 403.