

and become a plain, republican person like yourself."

Query: Did she agree to his proposition?—Smart Set.

Monopoly is the king of robbers, for it stealeth the root of the tree.—The Whim.

The great college president was slow to speak.

But at length, the attacks upon the modern system of secondary education becoming more virulent, he raised his voice.

"The insinuation," he declared, indignantly, "that the students who make brilliant records at their books do so at the expense of their athletic standing, is false and wholly unwarranted."—Puck.

A scientist said that, if the earth were flattened, the sea would be two miles deep all over the world. Whereupon an Oklahoma editor prints the following: "If any man is caught flattening out the earth, shoot him on the spot. There are a whole lot of us in Oklahoma who can't swim."—The Woman's Journal.

When you hear about the "marriage problem" and the "servant-girl problem" and the "labor problem" and the "drink problem," you may know that somebody is trying to dodge the plain truth about parentage and service and industrial responsibility and the nature of alcoholic poisons.—The Straight Edge.

Kind-Hearted Citizen—Tut! tut! tut! Don't worry over it, little boy. You didn't break your pitcher, and there's no use, you know, in crying over spilt milk.

Little Boy—Do I talk as if I was cryin', mister? (Resumes his violent language).—San Francisco Star.

The late Luigi Arditì once visited Stratford-on-Avon and was shown all the relics connected with Shakespeare. "Ah, I remember," he said. "Shakespeare, yes. 'Romeo e Giulietta,' 'Macbet,' 'Hamlet.' He was a great librettist."—Chicago Chronicle.

BOOKS

"IS WAR NOW IMPOSSIBLE?"

The Tolstoyan objection to war, that it is wrong, has been supplemented by Jean De Bloch's proof that it is impracticable. Thus again the moral and the practical are shown to harmonize.

The last of Bloch's six volumes on "The Future of War in Its Technical, Economic and Political Relations," translated by

R. C. Long and with a conversation with the author by W. T. Stead, and an introduction by Edwin W. Mead, has been published for the International Union, by Ginn & Company, Boston. The book is really a remarkable confirmation by materialistic methods, of the idealistic theory that what is morally wrong is practically unwise.

Jean De Bloch, who died in 1902, was a Polish Jew of Warsaw. Originally a poor street pedler he became a rich banker. His business led him into the study of financial economics, and incidentally of the art of war. He wrote exhaustively upon such subjects as Russian railways, Russian finance and Russian local government; but his "monumental work," as Mr. Mead characterizes it, was embodied in the six volumes on the future of war, of the last volume of which the book before us is a translation.

This book comprises a detailed explanation and discussion of modern military and naval development and an inquiry into the growing economic and political difficulties of waging war, all leading toward the conclusion that Europe must either disarm, or face the alternative of business ruin from the continuance of an armed peace or a veritable catastrophe from war. The book is written to prove that the normal development of the art of war has already advanced to a point which makes war between great Powers a physical and economic impossibility.

Mr. Stead's preface is a valuable contribution. Being in the form of an actual interview with the author, it illuminates the technicalities of the book itself with colloquial converse. "The war in which great nations armed to the teeth," so Mr. Stead quotes M. Bloch, "were to fling themselves with all their resources into a struggle for life and death—this is the war that every day becomes more and more impossible. Yet it is in preparations against that impossible war that these so-called practical men, who are the real Utopians of our time, are wasting the resources of civilization. I am dealing not with moral considerations which cannot be measured, but with hard, matter-of-fact material things, which can be estimated and measured with some approximation to absolute accuracy. I maintain that war has become impossible alike from a military, economic and political point of view."

That Bloch was capable of measuring and weighing the military factors involved in the practical side of the war problem, is shown by Mr. Mead in his introduction. "He met the military men," writes Mr. Mead, "upon their own ground. He lectured last Summer to the United Service Institution in London, a body of military experts, with a major-general in the chair, and he proved himself the superior of these practical and learned military men upon every technical point, and worsted them in the debate."

No intellectual diversion could be more

useful to world-power Congressmen and strenuous Presidents than a perusal of this book.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

—"The Being with the Uprighted Face." By Clarence Lothbury, author of "A Little Lower Than the Angels," "God Winning Us," "The Code of Joy." Philadelphia and London. The Nunc Licet Press. Price, \$1 net; postage 10 cents. To be reviewed.

PERIODICALS.

Readers of the Pilgrim for October will be delighted to welcome again the brief introductory editorials on men and matters of Moment. These editorials have always been calm, judicial, clear, free from exaggeration, and without as strong and able as any comments that are to be found upon current events in any of the many publications of to-day. It is interesting to note that in this number both Jefferson Davis and Robert E. Lee occupy prominent pages. Why such a magazine should feel called upon to publish such an article as that on Captain Hobson's Fams, is one of those problems of modern journalism the answer to which must probably be found in the necessity to be "popular." J. H. D.

The Springfield Republican, of October 14, has a word for Mr. Hanna, which he probably would not appreciate, if he should happen to see it. "Mr. Hanna," it says, "is much concerned in this campaign over the specter of socialism. It will not do. Mr. Hanna sees it everywhere, no matter what county he speaks in. The real pathos of this spectacle is that Mr. Hanna does not realize how much he himself contributes to socialism, with his ship subsidy bills and various monopolies." It is not clear whether the writer means that Mr. Hanna, by his methods, contributes to the discontent which produces socialism, or whether he means that Mr. Hanna's policy is itself socialistic; but he hits it, either way. J. H. D.

The leading editorial in the New York Independent, of October 8, deals with the present interesting situation in England. "At the psychological moment," says the writer, "Chamberlain has raised the banner of protection, and Balfour and his cabinet are all marching under it. It represents the temporary failure of the doctrine of free trade, which is the doctrine of international unselfishness, the doctrine we hold within our own States, the doctrine that will prevail in the final federation of the world." But this general international protection must be subject to general disintegration. "It may, indeed, be that after all, Chamberlain is playing the grand fifth act of the comedy of protection, which had to come to make the farce complete." J. H. D.

The Springfield Republican, speaking of the Rhode Island campaign, says: "This is an ideal year in politics for letting Rhode Island stay at home with its home issues. No one, it would seem, who has impartially studied public affairs in the plantations, may deny that a real work of reform needs to be accomplished, and that events have so contrived as to make Gov. Garvin the representative above all living men of the forward movement." In the same editorial the writer calls attention to the amusing contrast between the Republican platform and the Republican candidate. The platform holds forth vehemently against the trusts for building up barons of wealth. The candidate, Col. Colt, is "the head of the great rubber trust of America, a director of the American woolen trust, president of the Industrial Trust company, which has been absorbing small banks around the State, and vice president of the Rhode Island company, the street railroad oligarchy, which has all things its way in the Rhode Island legislature." J. H. D.

Harper's Weekly, of October 16, writing of the situation in Ohio, says: "Senator Hanna, for some reason best known to himself, seems to think that the Republicans are much less certain of obtaining a majority in the Legislature than they have hitherto been supposed to be, and that, consequently, his reelection to a seat in the United States Senate is in doubt. Only on this hypothesis can we explain