

platter that the outside may be clean also." The church, not only in its teaching, but in the lives of its members, must be an exemplar of purity; otherwise anything which it may say in regard to the prevailing corruption will be discredited. We must remember that the church claims for its converts the purification of regeneration; that in its members the spirit of the world has been supplanted by the spirit of heaven. If this doctrine be true, its members should be in the forefront of every movement for the purification of humanity. This is indeed frequently the case; but do we not often see the grafter in the pew, and the minister afraid to disturb him by any specific teaching against the evils that are eating out the heart of society? Are not many of the chief offenders respectable members of the church and prominent in its councils?

This condition exists not in any one denomination of Christians, but in all. Ministers are very often afraid to preach against the evils of which their own members are guilty. Under such conditions how can they help to purify the community at large? When any investigation exposes corruption in business or politics, do we not find many of the guilty parties to be members of the church? . . . The preaching against these prevailing evils is oftentimes choked in its utterance by the weakness of the minister, or by the opposition of the pew crying, "Preach unto us smooth things." Must not the church begin by first purifying itself through a strong preaching of the truth, condemning the corrupt influences prevailing in the world? If the church becomes purified, the world will soon feel its regenerating influence. . . .

\*

Do men at this day consider that their religion has any relation to their life in business, politics, or society? We often hear it said that men cannot succeed in business if they apply the principles of Christianity to it. Is not this equivalent to saying that many professing Christians use unprincipled methods in business? If this is the case what kind of regeneration and newness of life did they attain to when they were converted? Do not many Christians separate the idea of religion from the idea of business? Men prominent in the church organize stock companies and sell watered stock, knowing that no dividends will ever be paid on it. They seek or give rebates against the law. They violate the laws of the State and the nation as well as the laws of God; and if prosecuted they use every technicality to delay or circumvent justice. They are shocked if lesser criminals do not receive swift punishment; but if their own interests are threatened they seek swift punishment of their adversaries. These breeders of contempt for the law always expect its full powers to be used in securing to them the full enjoyment of their ill-gotten gains.

The common mode of viewing salvation seems to regard it more as a method of escaping the consequences of sin, than as salvation from sin itself. The murderer in the electric chair is assured of salvation, but his victim, sent suddenly into eternity, goes to perdition. Men go through the throes of conversion and confession, and have their sins forgiven; but politics and business are as corrupt as

before. Christianity has no relationship to this part of life, if we judge from the results in the practical life of the world. . . . It sometimes even appears as if the various bodies of the Christian church had lost sight of the great end and purpose of its existence, namely, the reformation of the life of its members. . . . But, "by their fruits shall ye know them."

\* \* \*

### ON THE LADDER.

See the men who are on the ladder:  
How grim they look and how hard they try;  
How they have to strain for each little gain,  
How eager they are to be getting high.

See the men who are on the ladder,  
Climbing away as the moments go,  
Each watching to get a chance to set  
His heel on the hand of the man below.

—S. E. Kiser, in Chicago Record-Herald.

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## BOOKS

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### THE LITERARY CAREER OF ERNEST CROSBY.



A literary career of growing interest and value is that of Ernest Crosby, whose new book, "Golden Rule Jones, Mayor of Toledo," has just come from the press (cloth, 50 cents, postpaid; paper, 25 cents, postpaid). This charming little story of a lovable man is an excellent example of Mr. Crosby's style, and will well serve as an introduction to this author for those who do not yet know him. Such persons will find after reading one of his books, that they will be wishing to read all the others.

Mr. Crosby's books have sprung quite naturally and spontaneously from the incidents of his varied and useful life. He was born in New York, November 4th, 1856, the son of the Rev. Dr. Howard Cros-

by, the much beloved pastor of the Fourth Avenue Presbyterian Church of that city. He received his academic training at Mohegan Lake School, graduated in academics from the University of New York with first honors in 1876, and in law from the Columbia College Law School at New York in 1878. After practicing law in the city of New York in a conventional way for nearly ten years, Mr. Crosby, who had taken a very active interest in rescuing city and state politics from the control of corrupt professional politicians, was elected to a seat in the lower house of the New York legislature. Here he held the responsible post of chairman of the committee on cities. He served with ability and was twice re-elected. The activities and possibilities of this legislative career, however, did not permanently attract him. In 1889 he was nominated by President Harrison for the position of judge of the international court in Egypt, and upon his appointment to this post by the Khedive of Egypt, he accepted.

For nearly five years Judge Crosby sat upon the bench of the international court at Alexandria. This court was one of four mixed tribunals for the adjudication of the rights of foreigners in Egypt, and its jurisdiction extended over civil disputes between foreigners and also between natives and foreigners. The proceedings in these courts are conducted in French and Italian, and Judge Crosby, a fine linguist, used both of these languages interchangeably in performing his judicial duties. He found his life and duties at Alexandria of great interest and educational value. His appointment was for life, and he might still be serving upon this Egyptian bench, instead of helping to lead modern thought toward higher ideals of civilization, but for one event, of little apparent moment at the time, but large in its results. He accidentally fell upon a copy of one of Tolstoy's books and casually read it.

This book changed the whole course of Mr. Crosby's life. It made him a democrat, where he had been an aristocrat. It moved him to reflect, instead of letting others reflect for him. It made him a vegetarian. It led him to hold the essential culture of good character and good will as far more worthy than the superficial refinement of merely intellectual culture. It made him revolt at military ideals. His former respect for "the big stick" gave way to a constantly growing respect for peaceful human brotherhood and association. He resigned his office in 1894 and returned to the United States, but on his way home turned aside for a visit to Tolstoy at his country home in Russia. His acquaintance with Tolstoy, made at this time, has continued and has ripened into a very close friendship. Tolstoy urged him, at this first visit, to lose no time upon his return to the United States in making the acquaintance of Henry George, whom Tolstoy declared to be one of the greatest of Americans. Mr. Crosby promptly acted upon this suggestion, having already been impressed by the practical character of George's remedies for social disorders, and he has ever since been an advocate of the Single Tax.

Early in the nineties Mr. Crosby became a founder and was elected first president of the New York Social Reform Club. His life since that time has been principally devoted to social reform work in various directions, in part by speaking and lecturing, in

## Publishers' Column

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is a weekly review which prints in concise and plain terms, with lucid explanations and without editorial bias, all the news of the world of historical value. It is also an editorial paper. Though it abstains from mingling editorial opinions with its news accounts, it has opinions of a pronounced character, based upon the principles of radical democracy, which, in the columns reserved for editorial comment, it expresses fully and freely, without favor or prejudice, without fear of consequences, and without hope of discreditable reward. Yet it makes no pretensions to infallibility, either in opinions or in statements of fact; it simply aspires to a deserved reputation for intelligence and honesty in both. Besides its editorial and news features, the paper contains a department of original and selected matter, in which appear articles and extracts upon various subjects, verse as well as prose, chosen alike for their literary merit and their wholesome human interest.

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riting and in part by organization efforts. a lawyer by profession, he has retired from ctice. He has delivered a great many lec- great variety of subjects throughout the ates and Canada, dealing especially with elating to social reform. He was presi- e New York Anti-Imperialist League from 05.

by's first book was "Plain Talk in Psalm le," published in London in 1898, and in l States in 1899 (cloth, \$1.50; by mail, r, 40 cents; by mail, 44 cents). This con- ly of rhymeless verse in the form made Walt Whitman, arraigning the injustices and prophesying an era of peace and fel- The force and candor of the book attract- ideal of attention, not only in America and out in other countries. Count Tolstoy , "I like the book very much. Some of -the choice is difficult because all are very ll have translated into Russian and pubd- he used an extract from the book as a a chapter in his recent manifesto against ink Yourselves" (paper, 10 cents, post- rnsion, the distinguished Norwegian nov- of it, "Your book is always on my table. e admirer of it." While "Plain Talk" is of Whitman, Mr. Crosby did not con- itate that poet. His model was, in fact, whose "Paroles d'un Croyant,"\* put it ead to write his first parable, "The ich lay in his desk for months unused ppropriate current event led him to send Conservator, in which it was published. ver have been succeeded by a second t had not been widely reprinted in the ouraged by this, he wrote "The Old, Old ich met with a similar reception, and st of the books rapidly followed.

ctions of the same character succeeded , namely, "Swords and Plowshares," ed in 1902 (cloth, \$1.20; by mail, \$1.29), ast," published in 1905 (cloth, 75 cents; cents). Both of these books were simultaneously in Great Britain and the es. The former is devoted in large part und forcible denunciation of war and the and to idyllic pictures of farm life. In oks ordinary rhyme and rhythm are to long the other verse, but whenever the ight is at its deepest he finds the un- or of Lamennais and Whitman most least two German translators have pub- lions from these books. Herr Slegmund erlin has been particularly happy in his ations, which read about as well as the l have appeared in many of the best als in Germany, including "Jugend" of elt am Montag" of Berlin, etc. Fugitive also been translated for French and Fin- als. Herr Pinner is preparing a Ger-

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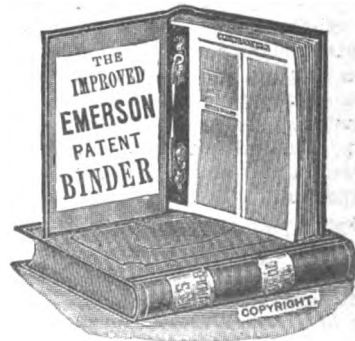
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man collection of these pieces for publication at Berlin.

"Broad-Cast" is made up of new chants and songs of labor, life and freedom. It contains the same message as the former book, delivered with equal power. In the year of its publication, 1905, Mr. Crosby was made chairman of the executive committee of the New York organization of the Friends of Russian Freedom.

"Swords and Ploughshares" was called forth by the Cuban, Philippine and Boer wars, and the same conflicts are responsible for the appearance of "Captain Jinks, Hero" (cloth, illustrated, \$1.50 postpaid), a keen satire upon the recent wars in which America has engaged, including the Chinese campaign. This book is the best known of Mr. Crosby's works and has met with both wide approval and severe condemnation. The South African News of Cape Town assures us in a long review that "there is not a dull page in the book"; and the New York Mail and Express declares that "the author has added to our literature a notable work of satire, which, whether right or wrong, must appeal to all endowed with the national sense of humor"; while the New York Evening Post asserts that he "has only succeeded in making himself ridiculous." Application has been made by a Viennese daily, having perhaps the largest circulation in Austria, to print a translation of "Captain Jinks" as a feuilleton; and one chapter of it has been translated for the French review, "Humanité Nouvelle." This absorbing book has had the effect of turning the thoughts of more than one boy away from the glamor and glory of war.

Mr. Crosby's other books are chiefly the result of his activity as a lecturer. As an admirer and personal friend of Count Tolstoy he has been naturally invited from time to time to address audiences on the subject of the Russian reformer, and from this two little volumes have developed, "Tolstoy and His Message" (cloth, 50 cents; by mail, 54 cents), and "Tolstoy as a Schoolmaster" (cloth, 50 cents; by mail, 53 cents), of which nearly five thousand copies each have been circulated. They are not lectures, either in form or spirit, but embody the results of the studies made for the lectures. The former is a concise and sympathetic account of the life, character and philosophy of Tolstoy. The latter is an essay on education and punishment, giving an account of Tolstoy's early experiments at school-teaching, based upon the principle of allowing the children to do pretty much as they pleased. This seems like rather anarchistic doctrine, but the book has been translated into Russian and published at Moscow, and a certificate on the reverse of the title page shows that the book has passed the ordeal of the Russian censorship. An Italian translation is also ready for the press and a part of the book has appeared in French and Spanish.

Likewise, Mr. Crosby's very original book on William Lloyd Garrison, "Garrison the Non-Resistant," (cloth, 50 cents; by mail, 55 cents), and his short, intimate and charming sketch, "Golden Rule Jones, Mayor of Toledo," which has just appeared (cloth, 50 cents, postpaid; paper, 25 cents, postpaid), are the permanent records, reshaped and rewritten, of what in embryo were originally lectures and addresses.

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the Non-Resistant" was issued in connection of the centenary of the birth of William Garrison, in December, 1905. This book is a clear and well written sketch of the career of the greatest of the Abolitionists, but its real contribution is to point the moral of his life and to emphasize the non-resistant philosophy which underlay his struggles and self-sacrificing labors. The sketch of "Golden Rule Jones" is a remarkably fascinating story of a strange but very lovable character, who only appeared in American business and life, somewhat in the manner of the messiah Mars in the well known play, and left a powerful and uplifting influence as the monument of his short career, the very rare career of actually applying the Golden Rule. This sketch was originally in "The Craftsman," and was later revised, with the consent of the editor of the magazine, by The Public Publishing Company, Chicago. This company is the original publisher of the two last mentioned titles, and has now gathered for sale all of Mr. Crosby's books. It should be added that the book on Edward Cardward Carpenter, Poet and Prophet," paper, (postpaid) did not grow out of lectures. It was written with the sole object of making better known in America a writer whom Mr. Crosby considered one of the greatest of living English-speaking authors of our times.

The following are the works of Ernest Crosby. As he is actively engaged in lecturing and writing, it is probable that the list will gradually increase.

J. G. P.

\* \* \*

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