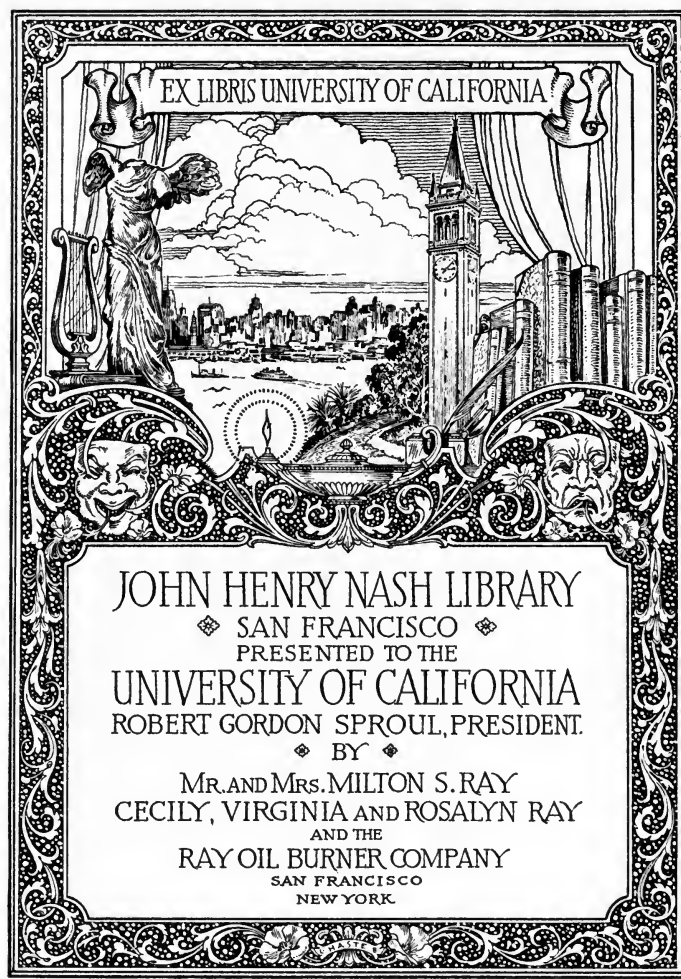




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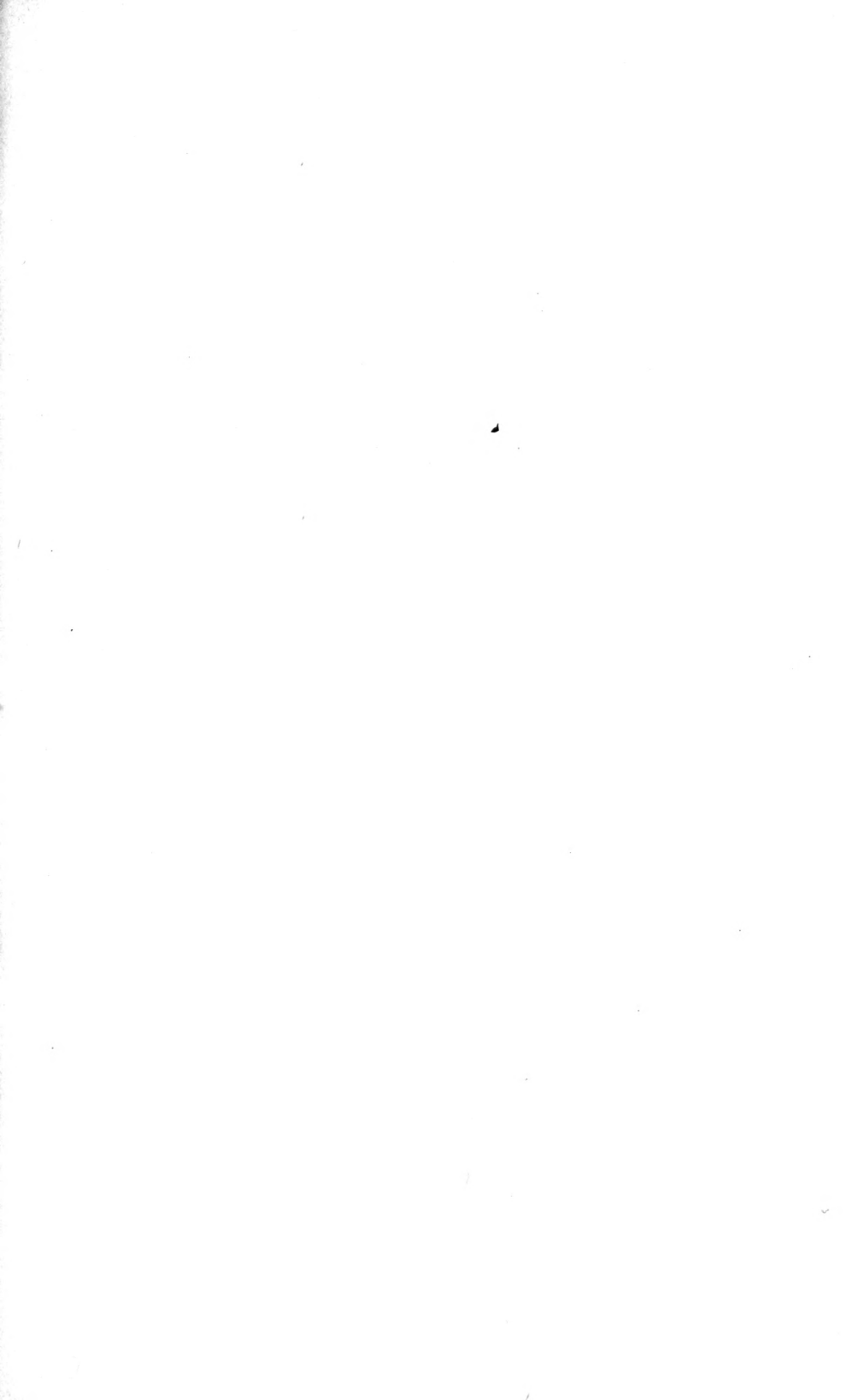
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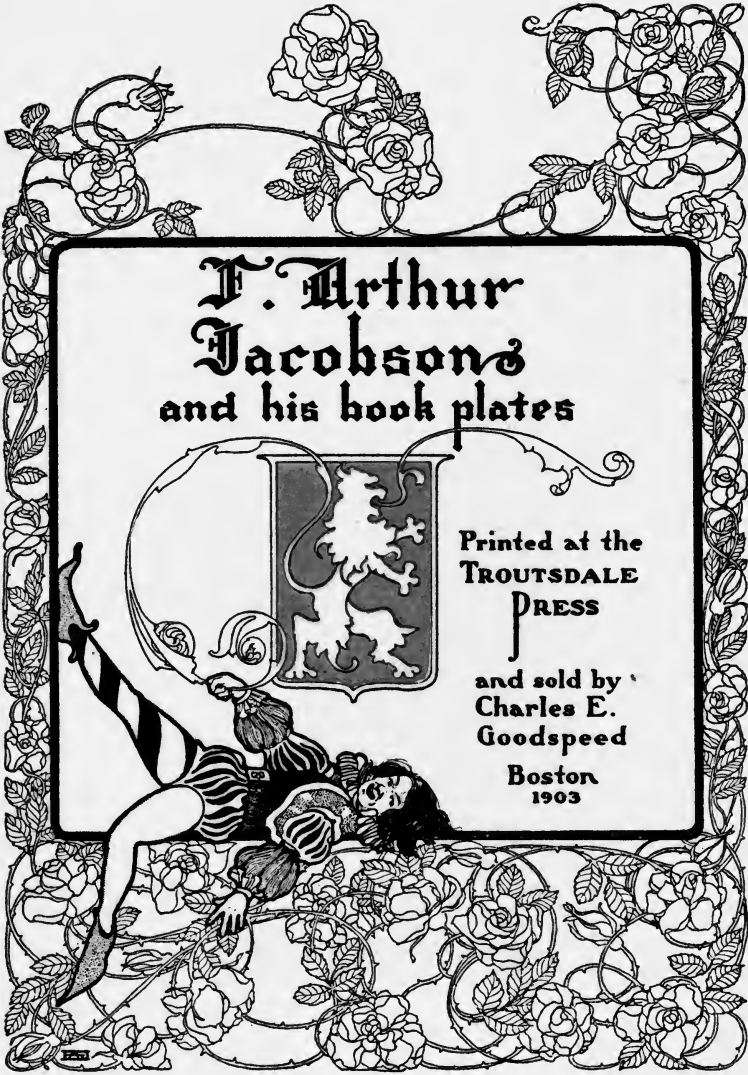
RAY OIL BURNER COMPANY

SAN FRANCISCO
NEW YORK

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**F. Arthur
Jacobson**
and his book plates

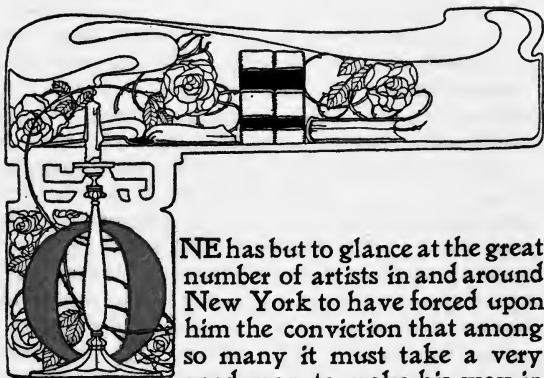


Printed at the
**TROUTSDALE
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and sold by
**Charles E.
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**Boston
1903**





NE has but to glance at the great number of artists in and around New York to have forced upon him the conviction that among so many it must take a very good man to make his way in the artistic field. No doubt there are a good many young artists there who find it almost if not quite as hard to dispose of their wares as do the literary element, but working on the basis that true merit will find its own reward in the long run is a tenet that keeps them at their drawing boards waiting for an opportunity to show what they can do.

Book-plate artists, or more properly speaking, those who have designed a few plates, are many in New York, perhaps more so than in any other section of our country, and the work of Mr. Jacobson will I think be somewhat new to a great

number of our collectors, who will no doubt be much surprised and pleased by the cleverness of the designs shown herewith. Mr. Jacobson belongs to the host of magazine designers and illustrators, and yet differs from many of them in that his work is distinctive, pleasing and original

Just what it is in his drawings that appeals to one so strongly is perhaps hard to determine, but it seems to me that it is their daintiness, and withal their quiet strength. There is in some of the plates too a certain humor, never descending to the grotesque, that is one of the principle charms of his work, but most of them are dainty and pretty designs, and it is probable that the latter style will characterize most of his productions.

The Charles E. Lydecker shows a plate of delightful humor, with its black cat, tome candle. It is a plate that grows upon one the more you look at it, the cat with its unblinking eyes having a strong attraction. Another design also in the humorous vein is that of Emily Clark Poor, colonial in style, and it has a black cat rubbing contentedly against the man's legs. Frank Aikens Jacobson seems to pose as a lover of the horse, and likewise of books, with which he has filled the back part of his equipage, perhaps this latter fact accounts for the cherubic smile on his

face. George Winfield Fairchild is evidently a lover of nature and reads along undisturbed by the wind blowing his skirts about. The plate for Kirke La Shelle IId, son of the famous librettist, is a very successful design showing the owner perched in a voluminous and comfortable armchair, engaged with one of his tomes, probably a fairy tale. The Jessie E. Struthers would possibly be called Colonial, with a charming bit of landscape in the background, a very pretty plate of the conventional type. The Thomas plate is a pretty design of someone's front door with an old fashioned knocker and little girl. Thomas Towar Bates if we may believe the design of his plate is obeying the behest of his middle cognomen "to war." Three plates in quite a new style are those for W P T showing a rampant lion, the sign chosen as the mark of my press, the one for J E S, a rose, and that for F A J, a goose on wing. These nicely colored by hand make a very brilliant showing. The design for Alan Franklin Gilham seems to be rather on the picaresque order, and is very attractive. Kate Everett Jacobson's is Colonial in style, a very dainty, pretty plate. It suffers perhaps from being in half tone, but was probably reproduced by this method as giving a softer, smoother effect than the line plate, the photogravure would con-

vey the spirit of the drawing much better. One of the most successful of Jacobson's plates is that for Jay Vivian Chambers. A daintier, more appropriate plate for a child could scarce be conceived. The little fellow is riding his hobby horse, and perusing his book with diligence, and as a fact, I believe he has a strong predilection for books with nice pictures, preferably in color.

Very few book-plates of these times carry the owner's name and address for the reason possibly, as the late Gleeson White advanced, that although it is a very good custom and would give the borrower of a book all possible details as to where to return the volume, it would at the sametime let loose upon one the hordes of book-plate collectors all over the world and he would be continually besieged by requests for his plate. However this may be it does not seem to have counted for much with Mr. Jacobson who in his own plate has boldly added his address.



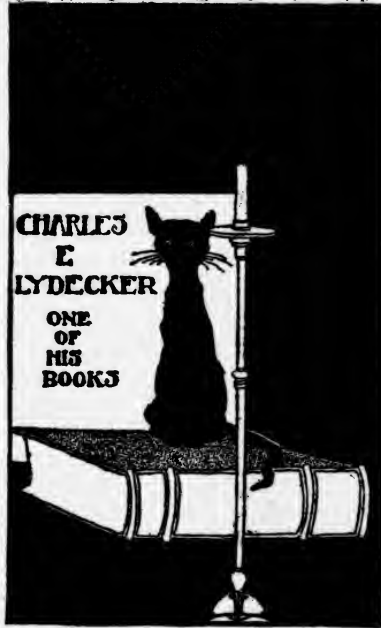




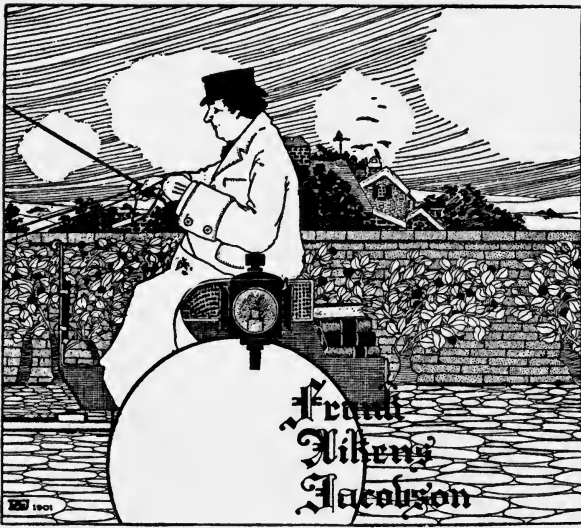
Kate,
Everett
Jacobson



J A C O B S O N













George
Winifred
Fairchild

This
his
book.



JACOBSON







1870
1871
1872
1873
1874
1875
1876
1877
1878
1879
1880











Thomas
Cowan
Bates







W.P.I.









FAS







1911

Alan
Franklin
Gilham









Winfred
Porter
Truesdell



2039a
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