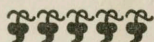


The Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction.



By ZELLA ALLEN DIXSON, A.M.

..... Librarian of The University of Chicago

Published by DODD, MEAD & COMPANY.

Prices — Cloth, \$2.00; Half Morocco, \$3.50; Full Morocco, \$5.00.

THIS work is an arrangement into an alphabetical subject list of all works of fiction in all languages which are founded upon facts—historical, physical, psychological, or moral. It has not been the object of the author to include in this topical arrangement *all* works of fiction, but only novels with a purpose,—those which are sent out into the world with a definite lesson to teach mankind. This must necessarily include very largely the writers of our own century. The older works of fiction, with a few notable exceptions, deal with intense love affairs, and have no object beyond the whiling away of an idle hour. During our own century the novel has come to have a very different sphere. It is no longer sufficient that the work of fiction be an avenue through which the reader may follow the workings of an overwrought imagination. Better still, it has ceased to be a boast among educated and intellectual people that they are not novel readers. On the contrary, it is an established fact that no one can claim to be a well educated person, in the highest sense of education, who is unfamiliar with the best fiction of all literatures.

With an increasing use of fiction has come a demand for subject classified catalogues of fiction. Booksellers, librarians, and the public generally, have felt the need of some arrangement of fiction lists other than by author and historical epochs. It is in the hope of in some degree meeting this demand that the author offers this contribution to bibliography. At present most of the fiction reading is disconnected and purposeless. It is believed by the scholars of literature who have seen this Index, that it will make it possible to take up with a purpose, even the leisure reading of the books we “take up for an hour,” and will permit the accumulation of much useful and instructive information in the form of a sugar-coated pill.

The author has endeavored to give the Index the greatest possible simplicity and directness, in the hope that in such a form it may be able to go into every private home as a family reference librarian, giving to its inmates a wise and satisfactory answer to the much repeated question, “What can I read?”

This is an age of specialization. Life has become so complex that one may no longer aim to know everything. If success is to be attained, “This one thing I do” must be written over the study door. By the help of this Index the student may, even in the hours of leisure and recreation, still follow out the lines of research upon which specialization is based.

Inquirers after truth in all departments will find in this volume a great labor-saving device, as well as an invaluable friend and counsellor.

The Index will include over 10,000 entries, arranged topically. The Chronology of Events embracing the centuries within the dates 800, B. C., and 1896, A. D.

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A NEW BIBLIOGRAPHY.

"Novels of history and place have often enough been classified for systematic reading. The Boston Public Library and the Mercantile Library of this city have both published such lists. Professor Allen has provided one in his course of historical study and reading fifteen years ago. The Index of Prose Fiction, issued by the Library of the University of California, offers another useful guide. A comprehensive list was however greatly needed and it has been at last furnished by Zella Allen Dixson of Chicago University, in a 'Subject Index to Prose Fiction.' No library can be without it for a day. To the historical teacher it will be invaluable, and no one called, as some of us are to direct the reading of those younger but will find it useful. Under countries, places, names of historical characters, periods of history, and some leading subjects like 'money,' 'criminology,' 'social purity,' 'slavery,' etc., are arranged the general body of English novels, and many French and German, with some in other tongues. . . . As a whole, the lists are surprisingly full and accurate. In the bibliographical field few more useful books have appeared this year."

—Book News, (Philadelphia, Pa.) November, 1897.

"AN EXCELLENT THING WELL DONE."

An excellent thing well done is to be found in *The Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction*, by Zella Allen Dixson, Associate Librarian of the University of Chicago. Over four hundred pages are filled with an alphabetically arranged subject list of "works of fiction which are founded on fact—historical, physical, psychological, or moral." Foreign fiction is included. The arrangement and subdivision of subjects are beyond criticism. Under "English History" a separate list is given for each century. Names of individuals—as, Mirabeau, Charlotte Corday, Constantine, Luther—are included in the subject list, as well as names of countries, States, cities, battles, periods, and a host of miscellaneous titles such as Adventure, Frontier Life, Future Life, Ministers, Authorship, Spiritualism, etc., etc. In fact, the only improvement we could suggest would be a weeding out of the less meritorious novels and the putting in their place of a little more specific information about those retained. To do this, however, would be to make another book altogether. Libraries will find this work almost indispensable.

—From *The Outlook*, October 23, 1897.

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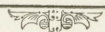
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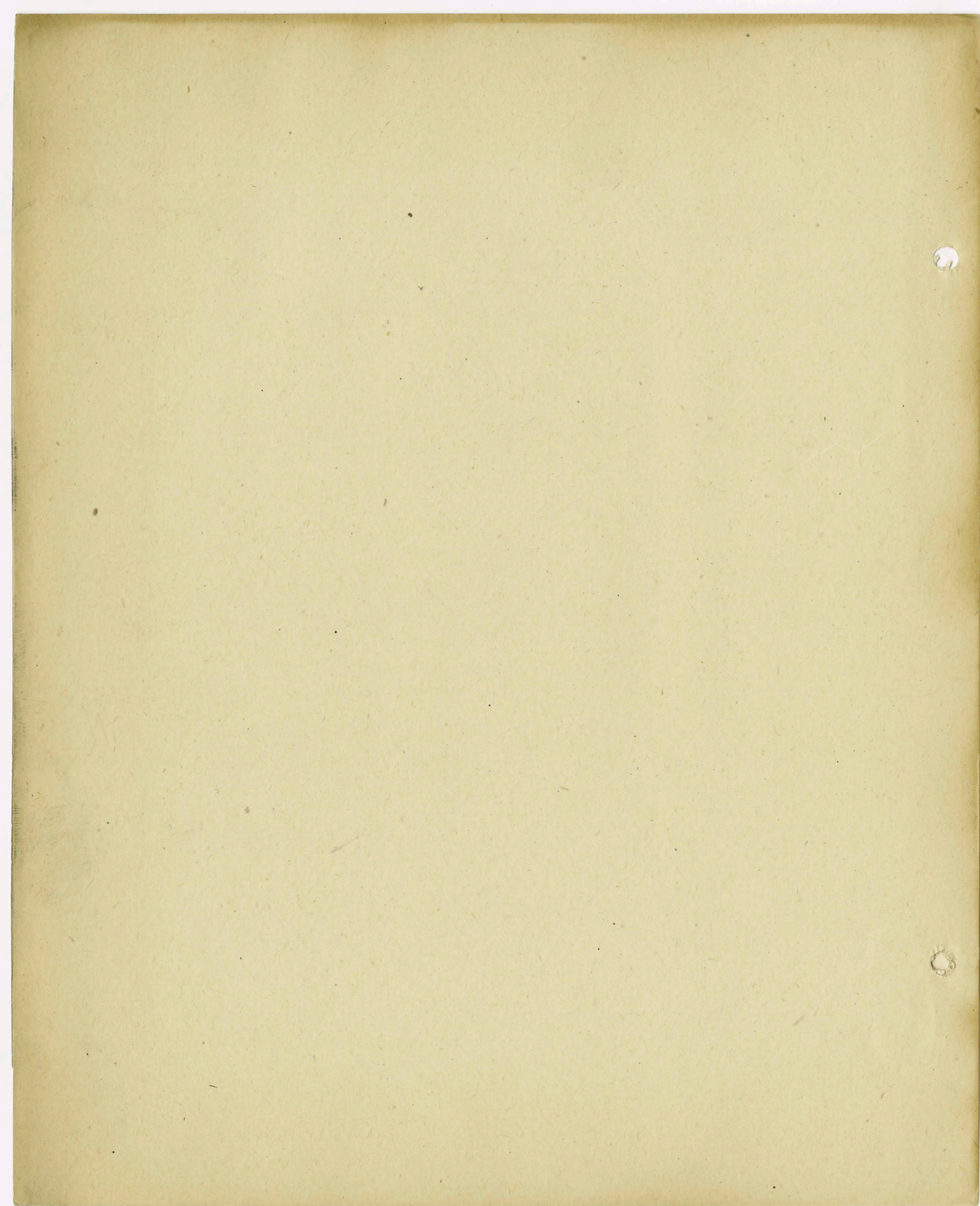
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A NEW TOOL FOR BRAIN-WORKERS.

For years bibliographers have been busy compiling indexes, ready-reference hand-books and analytical catalogues to assist in placing at the disposal of literary men and women every available source of information, which could be derived from instructive reading. One great mass of literature, however, has been allowed to remain with no systematic subject classification. With the exception of the arrangement into epochs of historical novels, the vast field of prose fiction has been left with no more minute analysis than a grouping by the nationality of the authors. This is, however, now a thing of the past. Dodd, Mead & Co. are announcing among their new publications "A Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction," By Zella Allen Dixson, A.M., librarian of the University of Chicago. This index not only separates with a relentless hand the sheep from the goats, but proceeds to the most minute classification by subject of all fiction that is founded on facts, either moral, physical, psychological or historical. It arranges foreign fiction as well as English, but in every case where a good English translation of the book exists, it is included in the references. Any one who is accustomed to think of all fiction as trash—the excited workings of an overwrought brain, will be surprised to see what untold riches of information and fact on all conceivable subjects are by this index laid bare. Indeed no class of workers seems to have been left out. Ministers will find among the references on such subjects as homiletics, church history, interpretation, doubt and skepticism, the complete range of modern thought along lines of special interest to them. Students in sociology will be saved some extra trips to the slums of our cities and yet be able to obtain knowledge of the real situation of the "submerged tenth" better than ever before by using the carefully prepared reflections of city life given in the references listed under sociology, criminology, sin and temptation, strikes and capital and labor. Teachers especially will bless the author for the weary hours saved which were formerly spent in preparing lists of stories to be used in connection with study work. Besides the general references which will occur to every one as topics under which fiction would naturally be arranged, there are many which come as delightful little surprises, such as "Abbeys and Castles." Imagine the delight of visiting picturesque old England and Wales with a mind well stored with the history and legends of each moss-covered castle. Indeed, one of the most surprising things about this "fiction index" is the fact that no class of brain-workers has been overlooked. There is something for everyone, and the book fits into the needs of the busy men and women of to-day as an old shoe fits the foot that has worn it. It is certain that brain-workers everywhere will hail with delight this new tool for the literary workshop, enabling them as it does to use material so long out of reach.

—From *The Standard*, August 29, 1896.

My Dear Friend:

It has been suggested to me that you would be interested in a book of mine now in the hands of the publishers. I take the liberty of sending you enclosed, the prospectus and order-blank and of soliciting your order for it. We are taking subscriptions in advance in order to make it possible for librarians, teachers and club-members to secure their copies at special rates. We reserve the right to increase the price as soon as all the subscriptions have been filled. More than one half of the first edition is already sold.

If you would like to avail yourself of this special rate, kindly fill out the blank and mail it to me in the enclosed envelope. Checks should be made payable to the same address. If you do not care for the book yourself, will you kindly hand the blanks to some personal friend of your own who would be glad to secure the book at this special rate while it is available.

Very sincerely,

ZELLA ALLEN DIXSON.



ZELLA ALLEN DIXSON.



Mrs. Dixon's Book.—One of the most important bibliographical publications of the past year is the Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction by our librarian, Zella Allen Dixon. This work is an original treatment of purpose novels, which form so large a part of the literature of to-day. Students everywhere have understood the value of fiction, but heretofore there has been no systematic attempt to classify this vast amount of material, thus bringing it within easy working reach of busy people. The object has not been to make an exhaustive list of all novels with a purpose, but the author may justly claim, as she does, to have made a comprehensive list sufficient for all practical purposes.

The book consists of an alphabetical subject list of 420 pages. There are about 375 main headings and many subdivisions. By far the largest part is devoted to historical fiction. For example, we find 33 pages of European history, ancient and modern, besides the references under the individual states and numerous cross references. Other countries have been treated equally exhaustively. The plan is to give a complete description of the customs, manners and life of a nation and then to give its history by periods. Our large cities and places of historical prominence form topics for a large and interesting selection of novels. Closely allied to the history of a country is the bibliographical fiction of epoch-making individuals.

Next in point of completeness are the sociological questions of the day. Working classes, labor and capital, socialism and kindred subjects are fully treated. Society in different countries occupies 6 pages. Legends can be studied from the earliest in eastern countries down to our own Washington Irving's Sleepy Hollow. This treatment of a subject by comparison in different countries is a marked feature of the book.

Theology, philosophy, science and art also furnish important topics.

Throughout the arrangement is clear and simple. There are no mysterious signs and symbols to entrap the uninitiated, and at the same time it is complete. All the little details that go to make up a useful reference book have been carefully observed. Only those accustomed to bibliographical work can realize the immense amount of patient labor required for such an undertaking. Pseudonyms and the inflation of names give much trouble, as every cataloguer knows to his sorrow, and to trace the title of an English translation back to the original often requires hours of toil. The

bibliographical knowledge of books, the classification scheme and the enormous amount of research necessary for the compilation of such a work make it a valuable book of reference and one worthy of a permanent place among our cherished works of bibliography.

Below is a partial bibliography of reviews.

Standard, August 29, '96; *Detroit Free Press*, Oct. 18, '97; *New York Tribune*, Oct. 19, '97; *Outlook*, Oct. 23, '97; *Providence (R. I.) Journal*, Oct. 25, '97; *Bookman*, Nov., 1897; *Book News*, (Philadelphia) Nov., 1897; *Public Libraries*, Nov., 1897; *Baltimore Sun*, Nov. 5, '97; *Cleveland Leader*, Nov. 7, '97; *San Francisco Chronicle*, Nov. 7, '97; *Over The Tea Cups*, Nov. 13, '97; *New Haven Leader*, Nov. 23, '97; *Woman's Journal*, Nov. 27, '97.



University of Chicago Weekly.
June, 2nd. 1898.

Mrs. Zella Allen Dixon, librarian at the University of Chicago, has gone to her summer home, Granville, O., to remain several weeks. Mrs. Dixon is popular not only as librarian but also as an authoress. Her new publication, "A Comprehensive Index to Universal Prose Fiction," is meeting a long-existing demand and proving to be a valuable "tool for brain-workers." The work is published by Dodd, Mead & Co.

Hyde Park Sayings.
July, 17-1897.

What is Dixson's Subject Index to Fiction?

"It is far and away the best and most practical, up-to-date index to historical novels yet published, and is indispensable to public libraries and purchasing committees."—*Edward W. Hall, Librarian of Colby University.*

"An excellent thing well done."—*The Outlook.*

"It is a time-saver that will be appreciated by writers, authors, and readers."—*New York Observer.*

"It is an excellent piece of work. There is no reason why it should not become as much of a standard as Poole's Index."—*The Chicago Tribune.*

"The lists are surprisingly full and accurate. In the bibliographical field few more useful books have appeared this year."—*Philadelphia Book News.*

"Should find a place on every bookman's desk."—*The Bookman.*

"Every student and every writer will feel indebted to the Associate Librarian of the Chicago University."—*The New York Commercial Advertiser.*

"This INDEX will prove a most valuable and delightful guide. It is easy to see also of what special help the work will be in the hands of every pastor, college instructor, librarian, or bookseller."—*Pacific Baptist.*

"Your INDEX has already been of great service to readers of this library and is destined to be used a great deal more."—*R. C. Davis, Librarian of University of Michigan.*

"I am more and more delighted with your INDEX as I use it in connection with my classes."—*C. L. Williams, Professor of English Literature, Denison University.*

"I congratulate you on the service you have rendered readers in this publication."—*Charles C. Soule, Boston Book Co.*

"SUBJECT INDEX TO FICTION promises to win a respected place on the shelves to which such books of reference are assigned."—*The New York Tribune.*

"Your INDEX improves on acquaintance. I never knew what the world of fiction really was before I studied this methodical manual."—*Dr. Charles J. Baldwin, Pastor Granville (O.) Baptist Church.*

"I am experiencing great pleasure and profit from the use of your INDEX. I have recommended it most heartily to our students."—*Dr. J. D. S. Riggs, President of Ottawa University.*

PRICE, ENGLISH BUCKRAM, \$2.00 AND POSTAGE

ADDRESS

ZELLA ALLEN DIXSON, A.M.,

Associate Librarian of the University of Chicago,

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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University of Chicago Weekly
June 2, 1898.

The Mount Holyoke.

Dec. 1897.

Perhaps *The Mount Holyoke* can no better express its appreciative pride in the latest work⁶ of its noted alumnae, Mrs. Zella Allen Dixon, than by quoting for its readers a thorough review written by Viola Price Franklin for the *Tea Cups*. The whole book world is grateful for this valuable addition to its number; from New England to Japan, the book has gone to be a faithful and hard worked servant to many libraries. Over two hundred and fifty libraries have already purchased the book, including libraries in Japan, England, and Canada.

"This most valuable book should find a place upon every student's table and in every library in the country. Mrs. Dixon has rendered the large body of students, throughout the land, an invaluable service in thus compiling and arranging the works of fiction in many languages. Over four hundred pages are filled with an alphabetic arrangement of the various books of fiction 'founded on fact, historical, physical, psychological, or moral.' The author's judgment is shown in her preface when she states it has not been her object to include all works of fiction, 'but only novels with a purpose, those which are sent out into the world with a definite lesson to teach mankind.'

"The fact that recently the study of fiction has been considered worthy of a place in the curriculum of our best universities, such as Yale, Harvard, and Chicago, is another strong proof of the increasing value placed upon fiction, and that an intelligent knowledge of the same is no small factor in a liberal education. Such a book as this fills a long felt want. Previously, only arrangements of fic-

⁶ *The Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction*. By Zella Allen Dixon, A.M., Associate Librarian of the University of Chicago. Dodd, Mead & Co., New York. Cloth, \$2.00. Full Morocco, \$5.00.

**THREE PAGES NOT
SCANNED**

From The Mount Holyoke
December, 1897.

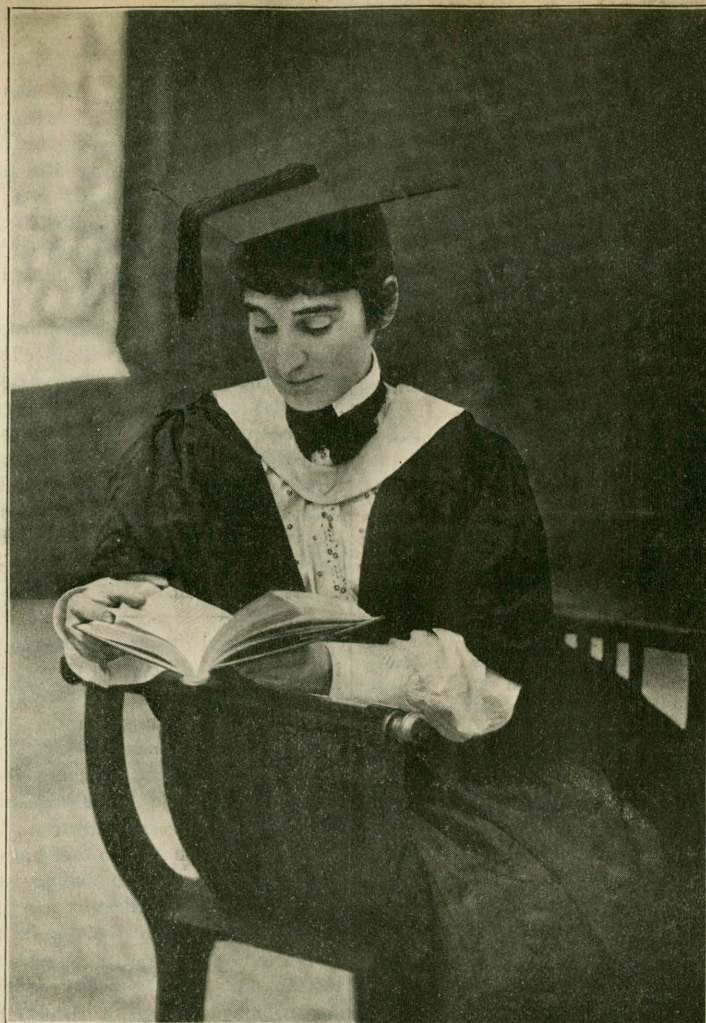
DEDICATION OF PEARSONS HALL.

MRS. ZELLA ALLEN DIXSON, A.M.

p.110

WE have gathered here to-day under the classic shadow of Mount Holyoke to honor the memory of that brave woman who first opened the doors of the college world to womanhood. Well has this institution, that claims Mary Lyon as its founder, fulfilled her early dreams of its future field of usefulness. Preserving the distinctively Christian characteristics, it has ever cherished and strengthened all that was best in the young lives intrusted to its care. Down through the decades, working amid the most blinding prejudices, the bitterest opposition, the most grinding poverty, Mount Holyoke has held the torch of learning alight until that small rushlight has grown into a flame that to-day is seen and recognized around the world.

Once more the sacred promise of old is fulfilled in our ears, "To him that hath shall be given"; the faithful over a little is once more called to take charge of larger interests, more abiding results. We meet to-day to assist in the dedication of these new and beautiful structures; each one devoted to its own uses; each consecrated to the memory of some one of the noble spirits it is Mount Holyoke's proud boast to honor. Pearsons Hall, the building dedicated to the memory of Dr. D. K. Pearsons of Chicago, is the pride not only of the Association of the Northwest, but of every Holyoke woman the world around. It is a gift which speaks of the love and admiration of this noble man for all that Mount Holyoke holds most sacred, it is his ever present testimony of approval of the Christian culture for which the institution has stood. Pearsons Hall will stand also as a witness of our appreciation of all that this great philanthropist has done for our beloved Alma Mater; a monument more eloquent than granite shaft or sculptured mosque; an example of unselfish living that shall rest like a quiet benediction on the young lives that will as the years come and go find beneath its roof their college home; an influence over other lives too boundless to be



ZELLA ALLEN DIXSON.

Librarian of the University of Chicago.

FOR LIBRARIES.

Mrs. Zella Allen Dixson's Book
a Great Success.

IT HAS HAD A LARGE SALE.

A Review of the Book by James
Shaw, of the Aurora Public
Library.

Mrs. Zella Allen Dixson, the librarian of the University of Chicago, has recently published a book entitled "Subject Index to Fiction, which has met with an immediate and wonderful success. The book has been introduced into 500 libraries in different parts of

the country and into many homes of literary people. The demand for the book was so great that the first edition had to be increased before it was off the press.

Mrs. Dixson has been working on the book for a number of years, and completed it only last summer. She has been librarian at the University of Chicago ever since the University opened, and prior to coming here served in the same position at Columbia college. Her book involves an entirely new arrangement, being an alphabetical subject list of all works of fiction in all languages which are founded upon facts—historical, physical, psychological or moral. It has not been the object of the author to include in this topical arrangement *all* works of fiction, but only novels with a purpose—those which are sent out

into the world with a definite lesson to teach mankind. This must necessarily include very largely the writers of our own century. The older works of fiction, with a few notable exceptions, deal with intense love affairs, and have no object beyond the whiling away of an idle hour. During our own century the novel has come to have a very different sphere. It is no longer sufficient that the work of fiction be an avenue through which the reader may follow the workings of an overwrought imagination. Better still, it has ceased to be a boast among educated and intellectual people that they are not novel readers. On the contrary, it is an established fact that no one can claim to be a well-educated person, in the highest sense of education, who is unfamiliar with the best fiction of all literatures.

The following is one of the many warm indorsements the book has received, being from the pen of Mr. James Shaw, the librarian of the Aurora, Ill., public library:

"This is an attempt towards the classification of fiction, not only as to historic persons, events and places, but according to the idea, purpose or theme which may dominate or at least pervade it. Something over 460 subject-headings are used for the distribution of about 12,000 novels, and the result is the nearest approach to a perfect index to fiction that the literary world has ever had.

"A glance over the subject-headings gives an impressive idea of the extent to which the novel has portrayed every phase of human interest and penetrated all the affairs of human life. Of these headings, ninety are the names of monarchs who have reigned or are still reigning in various countries; seventy are the names of other persons eminent chiefly as patriots, artists, soldiers or statesmen. All of the great and many of the minor nations of the world, many cities and the states of the American Union are included in these subject-headings. They comprise also such geographical divisions as Acadia, Jamaica, Malay Archipelago, Galicia, West Indies, Zululand, and such localities as Isle of Man, Pike's Peak, Yellowstone Park and Yosemite Valley. The professions are represented by headings like legal stories, journalism, pedagogy, ministers, medical novels. Religious creeds have their

representatives in Catholicism, Methodism, Mormonism, Mohammedanism. Protestantism, Theosophy, Christian science and Faith-Healing furnish a large number of entries. Among the arts music is well represented, but painting and sculpture are wanting. Wars, both of ancient and modern times, that have become known by descriptive words and phrases occupy much space. We learn that no less than twenty-six battles figure in the pages of romance. Marriage is here, and the 'woman question' fully represented under the more practical heading, 'Relation of the Sexes.'

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Chicago South-Side
Sayings.
March. 12' 1898.

An Index to Novels.

Some personal associations with the first Christian name of the compiler, Zella Allen Dixon, A.M., Associate Librarian of the University of Chicago, leave us in perplexity whether to say "he" or "she;" but whichever the sex may be, there can be no question as to the value of the service rendered in *The Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction*, the object of which is to classify the world's foremost fiction by title according to the topics illustrated, then arranging the topics with their fiction titles alphabetically, so that the reader who may want a list of all the good novels relating to a particular period in English History, for example, or to Student Life in Paris, or to Venice, or to Napoleon, can turn to the proper entry in this book and can find approximately what he wants. We say approximately, for of course no one volume, even of 420 pages, can hold all possible references. We know of no book which attempts what Zella Allen Dixon, he or she, has not only attempted but well performed, though, of course, such special catalogues as those of the Boston Public Library and other bibliographies of that nature have done it for a limited use. This is a directory which every public library simply *must* have, and which every private library *ought* to have, and which belongs on every shelf that pretends to any completeness in the way of books of reference. [Dodd, Mead & Co. \$2.00.]

The Literary World.
March. 5' 1898.

THE COMPREHENSIVE SUBJECT INDEX TO UNIVERSAL PROSE FICTION.
Compiled and arranged by Zella Allen Dixon, Assistant Librarian in
the University of Chicago. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co, 1897.

This book is of permanent value, and not dependent on the passing impression or the wave of reviews which followed its appearance. Our review, though late, will be with the purpose of showing the number of works of fiction which have been devoted to the American Aborigines, and to the early local history of the Western States as compared with those on Oriental Archaeology and Ancient History. One would naturally suppose that the American Indian had had more than his proper share, but this is not true, for while the Indians have been described by Cooper in a few instances yet there are many tribes, and these the most romantic and attractive in their mythology and history, which have been totally ignored. We maintain that here is a field for the novel writer which will yield most abundant, fruitful and poetical imagery, and if properly worked will show an entirely different side from that which has so tragically presented itself.

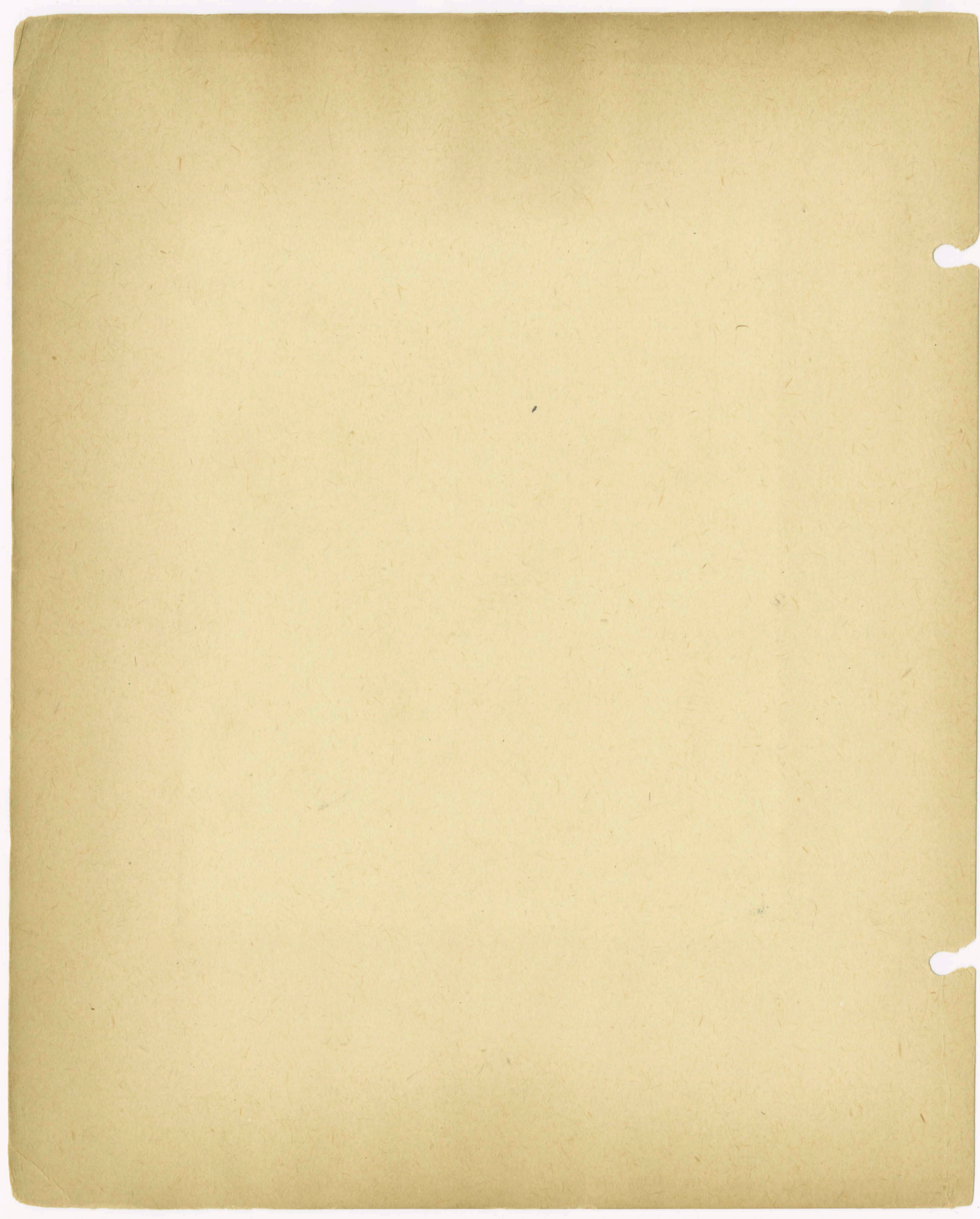
The list of works in which American Indians are prominent number only seventy, and including those on the French and Indian wars, only one hundred and six; while those on Oriental Archaeology, including Babylon, Egypt and Athens, one hundred and two, and those on the early days of Christianity, forty-two. There are forty-nine novels whose scenes are laid in Central or South America; and Plymouth has come in for about twenty-five titles, and Pocahontas for only four. There are ten novels on the Vikings, while there are about two hundred and fifty on Spanish history; fifteen on Columbus, four on Lincoln; thirteen have their scenes laid in Cuba and forty in Mexico. Adventures, during the early times, on the Atlantic coast have formed the theme of thirty-five novels. As to the Western States, fourteen have their scenes laid in Ohio, thirteen in Illinois, eight in Colorado, twenty-two in Indiana, eight in Chicago. King Phillip's war is celebrated by five, and the Seminole war by eight. The war of 1812 has thirty-two. Virginia has been honored by forty-eight novels, but Wisconsin has unfortunately been left though several novels have certainly been written which make that State the scene of the story.

In the department of Folk-lore there are ten credited to American tales, only five to the folk-lore of the Indians, six to Negro stories. This will undoubtedly be changed in a few years, as the folk-lore of the Negro is about exhausted, while that of the North American Indian has just begun to be known.

Mrs. Dixon has certainly done good service, and her book will not only be appreciated by Librarians but will ultimately become a hand-book and guide for all who want to read fiction for the history and for the poetry and literature there may be contained in it, and possibly the passive, sensational loving people will find a few things which will benefit them.

American Antiquarian.

September and October, 1898.





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Chicago South Side Sayings Mar. 12, 1898.

July 28, 1898.
Last evening the Travelers' Club entertained on Shepardson campus, in honor of Mrs. Zella Allen Dixon, librarian of the University of Chicago. The other guests were the members of the Fortnightly Club and representatives of the different clubs in Licking county. Mrs. Dixon delivered a lecture before the clubs on "The Effect of Club Life and Work on the Community." After the lecture an informal reception was held and light refreshments were served. *Grawville Times*

Mrs. Zella Dixon, whose able discourse at the Peoples church, Sunday morning, was highly appreciated by her audience, was the guest while in Aurora of Mr. and Mrs. James Shaw.

Aurora Daily Beacon,
June 6, 1898.

Mrs. Zella Dixon, who delivered a discourse at the People's church Sunday morning, was entertained, during her stay in Aurora, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Shaw.

Aurora Evening Post, June 6, 1898.

THE
COMPREHENSIVE
SUBJECT INDEX
TO
UNIVERSAL PROSE FICTION

Compiled and Arranged

BY

ZELLA ALLEN DIXSON, A.M.

ASSOCIATE LIBRARIAN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

NEW YORK
DODD, MEAD AND COMPANY

1897

2
Subject Index to Edition

Copyright, 1897,
BY DODD, MEAD AND COMPANY.

University Press:
JOHN WILSON AND SON, CAMBRIDGE, U.S.A.

Table of Index to Edition

TO
MY STUDENTS,
WHEREVER THEY MAY BE SCATTERED ABROAD,
WHOSE NEEDS HAVE BEEN THE INSPIRATION FOR THE WORK,
This Volume
IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED.

4

SUBJECT INDEX TO FICTION

DIXSON

Every book that we take up without a purpose is an opportunity lost of taking up a book with a purpose; every bit of stray information that we cram into our heads without any sense of its importance, is for the most part a bit of the most useful information driven out of our heads and choked off from our minds. — FREDERIC HARRISON.

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Hyde Park Call Sayings, July 17, 1897.

Mrs. Zella Allen Dixon, librarian at the University of Chicago, after several months' recreation at her summer home in Ohio, has returned to duties. Her book, "Subject Index to Prose Fiction," is meeting with an unprecedented sale. Although just out of press, thirteen hundred orders are being filled.

South Side Sayings, Oct. 9, 1897.

LEARNING LIBRARY SCIENCE.

Aurora Class Will Be Examined By Librarian of Chicago University.

The class in library science, taught by Mrs. Zella Allen Dixon, librarian of Chicago University, finished its course on Friday last and will submit to an examination next week. The class is loud in its praises of Mrs. Dixon, both as an instructor and as a woman, for they feel that the association with her will have its influence throughout their entire lives, and the work done under her supervision by the class is very beneficial in library work.

On Monday last, Mrs. Dixon gave the entire day to her Aurora class in Chicago, taking the class to the Library of the University, where the instruction in technical work which they have received could be seen in its application.

The class lunched with Mrs. Dixon at her beautiful home on Monroe avenue, and upon its return voted the day a delightful one all around.

The class is composed of Librarian Shaw and Assistants Miss Miles and Miss Pooley, Misses Thorne, Merrill, Gibson, Goodwin, Marshall, Mrs. Geo. Schickler and Mrs. Twining, of the Batavia library. *Aurora News*

"AN EXCELLENT THING WELL DONE."

An excellent thing well done is to be found in *The Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction*, by Zella Allen Dixon, Associate Librarian of the University of Chicago. Over four hundred pages are filled with an alphabetically arranged subject list of "works of fiction which are founded on fact—historical, physical, psychological, or moral." Foreign fiction is included. The arrangement and subdivision of subjects are beyond criticism. Under "English History" a separate list is given for each century. Names of individuals—as, Mirabeau, Charlotte Corday, Constantine, Luther—are included in the subject list, as well as names of countries, States, cities, battles, periods, and a host of miscellaneous titles such as Adventure, Frontier Life, Future Life, Ministers, Authorship, Spiritualism, etc., etc. In fact, the only improvement we could suggest would be a weeding out of the less meritorious novels and the putting in their place of a little more specific information about those retained. To do this, however, would be to make another book altogether. Libraries will find this work almost indispensable.

—From *The Outlook*, October 23, 1897.

—A recent issue of the Chicago South Side Sayings contained the following: "Mrs. Zella Allen Dixson, librarian at the University of Chicago, after several months' recreation at her summer home in Granville, Ohio, has returned to duties. Her book, 'Subject Index to Prose Fiction,' is meeting with an unprecedented sale. Although just out of press, thirteen hundred orders are being filled."

Granville Times, Oct. 28 '97.

A NEW BIBLIOGRAPHY.

"Novels of history and place have often enough been classified for systematic reading. The Boston Public Library and the Mercantile Library of this city have both published such lists. Professor Allen has provided one in his course of historical study and reading fifteen years ago. The Index of Prose Fiction issued by the Library of the University of California offers another useful guide. A comprehensive list was however greatly needed, and it has been at last furnished by Zella Allen Dixson, of Chicago University, in a '*Subject Index to Prose Fiction*.' No library can be without it for a day. To the historical teacher it will be invaluable, and no one called, as some of us are to direct the reading of those younger, but will find it useful. Under countries, places, names of historical characters, periods of history, and some leading subjects like 'money,' 'criminology,' 'social purity,' 'slavery,' etc., are arranged the general body of English novels, and many French and German, with some in other tongues. . . . As a whole, the lists are surprisingly full and accurate. In the bibliographical field few more useful books have appeared this year."

—*Book News*, (Philadelphia, Pa.) November, 1897.

Miss Dixon's Fiction Index.

WHEN the man who opposes the novel with a purpose sees a copy of "Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction," compiled by Miss Zella Allen Dixon, he must be convinced of the total depravity of novelists. For it includes everything from agnosticism to zoology. It has been the author's idea to prepare a complete manual of reference for those who wish to imbibe information by means of fiction and are too lazy to read the sources where the information may be had at first hand. The list is comprehensive; for it includes all important works of fiction founded on fact, historical, physical, psychological or moral; all "novels with a purpose," those which are sent out into the world with a definite lesson to teach mankind," as Miss Dixon puts it. The book will be of special value to teachers who wish to direct their pupils along special lines of reading, awaking in their untrained minds a desire for an acquaintance with undiluted history or science. It certainly will prove indispensable to libraries, for it seems to be reliable, and such trifling inaccuracies as "Looking Backwards" for "Looking Backward" will not affect its value as a work of reference. (Dodd, Mead & Co.)

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Chicago Times-Herald.
Nov. 13, '97.

One of the most timely books of the season is the "Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction," by Zella Allen Dixon, librarian of the University of Chicago. The time is past when authors give expression to their theories of reform in dull treatises. The novelist is one of the most effective reformers of the day. Dixon's Index takes this vast mass of valuable material and classifies it for the busy students; thus making it possible for every reader to collect information in regard to the burning questions of the day through the pleasant channels of "fiction."

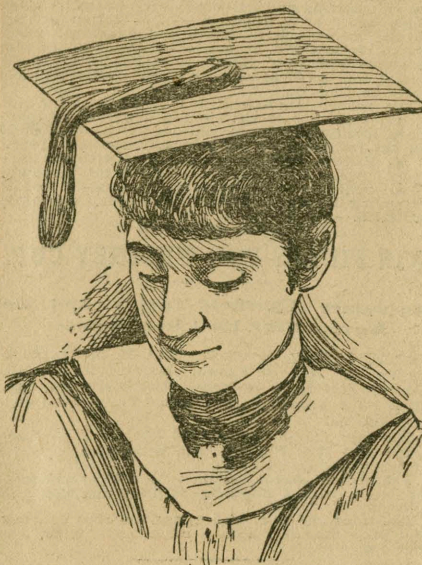
This work is an arrangement into an alphabetical subject list of works of fiction, in all languages, which are founded on fact, historical, physical, psychological, or moral. Teachers especially will find this is a time-saver in making out reference lists for the class-room study. Literary clubs will find in this index to the knowledge of the ages a careful guide to courses in reading on every conceivable subject. Parents will welcome it as an exhaustless mine of information for the home library. It is, in fact, one of the most useful of indexes to all classes of literary workers. It is due to such masterpieces of bibliography that America is ranked as leader in the art of index making and all literary time-savers.

Orleans Republican
(Albion, N.Y.) Feb. 2, 1898.

MRS. DIXSON'S USEFUL INDEX.

Covers Subjects Treated Of in Novels of a Serious Nature.

PROMINENT among the intellectual women of the times is Mrs. Zella Allen Dixon, the librarian of the University of Chicago. She has lately brought out a catalogic book entitled "Subject Index to Fiction," which has had an immediate and wonderful success. The index is already in 500 libraries and in many literary homes. Mrs. Dixon has been at work on this book for many years and finished her labors last



ZELLA ALLEN DIXON.
[Librarian of University of Chicago.]

summer. She has been librarian at the big university since it was opened, and before she assumed her duties there she was librarian at Columbia College.

The index is concerned with works of fiction of a serious nature or those founded upon facts. It covers all languages and all "purpose" novels wherein historical, psychological, physical, or moral subjects are treated. It is a distinct gain to literature and its existence is a recognition of the serious phase which fictional literature has assumed within the past score of years.

Chicago Times-Herald
March 26, 1898.

—Among those whose names have been added to Librarian Spofford's copyright lists in the last week is Prof. Zella Allen Dixson, librarian of the University of Chicago. The new book is a contribution to bibliography and will appear among the fall publications of Dodd, Mead & Co.—Chicago Tribune.

Granville Times.
July. 9'-1896.

Among those whose names have been added to Librarian Spofford's copyright lists in the last week is Prof. Zella Allen Dixson, librarian of the University of Chicago. The new book is a contribution to bibliography and will appear among the fall publications of Dodd, Mead & Co.

Chicago Tribune.
July. 6'-1896.

Librarians will look forward with considerable interest to the appearance of a new work by Prof Zella Allen Dixson, librarian of the university of Chicago. She has compiled a comprehensive subject index to universal prose fiction. The work is an arrangement into an alphabetical subject list of all works of fiction in all languages which are founded upon facts, the object being to include all novels with a purpose. There are over 10,000 entries and the chronology of events embraces the period within the dates 800 B. C. and 1896 A. D.

Public Libraries.
Sept - '1896.

Among the list of authors to whom the government has issued copyrights during the past week is the name of our librarian, Zella Allen Dixson. The new book is a contribution to Bibliography and will appear among the autumn publications of Dodd, Mead & Co., New York City.

Univ. of Chicago Weekly.
July. 9' - 1896.

A New Tool for Brain Workers.

For years bibliographers have been busy compiling indexes, ready-reference hand-books and analytical catalogues to assist in placing at the disposal of literary men and women every available source of information, which could be derived from instructive reading. One great mass of literature, however, has been allowed to remain with no systematic subject classification. With the exception of the arrangement into epochs of historical novels, the vast field of prose fiction has been left with no more minute analysis than a grouping by the nationality of the authors. This is, however, now a thing of the past. Dodd, Mead & Co. are announcing among their new publications "A Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction." By Zella Allen Dixson, A.M., librarian of the University of Chicago. This index not only separates with a relentless hand the sheep from the goats, but proceeds to the most minute classification by subject of all fiction that is founded on facts, either moral, physical, psychological or historical. It arranges foreign fiction as well as English, but in every case where a good English translation of the book exists, it is included in the references. Any one who is accustomed to think of all fiction as trash—the excited workings of an overwrought brain, will be surprised to see what untold riches of information and fact on all conceivable subjects are by this index laid bare. Indeed no class of workers seems to have been left out. Ministers will find among the references on such subjects as homiletics, church history, interpretation, doubt and skepticism, the complete range of modern thought along lines of special interest to them. Students in sociology will be saved some extra trips to the slums of our cities and yet be able to obtain knowledge of the real situation of the "submerged tenth" better than ever before by using the carefully prepared reflections of city life given in the references listed under sociology, criminology, sin and temptation, strikes and capital and labor. Teachers especially will bless the author for the weary hours saved which were formerly spent in preparing lists of stories to be used in connection with study work. Besides the general references which will occur to every one as topics under which fiction would naturally be arranged, there are many which come as delightful little surprises, such as "Abbeys and Castles." Imagine the delight of visiting picturesque old England and Wales with a mind well stored with the history and legends of each moss-covered castle. Indeed, one of the most surprising things about this "fiction index" is the fact that no class of brain-workers has been overlooked. There is something for every one, and the book fits into the needs of the busy men and women of to-day as an old shoe fits the foot that has worn it. It is certain that brain workers everywhere will hail with delight this new tool for the literary workshop, enabling them as it does to use material so long out of reach.

The Standard.
August. 29'-1896.

Mrs. Zella Allen Dixson, librarian at the University of Chicago, after several months' recreation at her summer home in Ohio, has returned to duties. Her book, "Subject Index to Prose Fiction," is meeting with an unprecedented sale. Although just out of press, thirteen hundred orders are being filled.

South Side Sayings.
Oct. 9' 1896.

LITERATURE

An excellent thing well done is to be found in *The Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction*, by Zella Allen Dixon, Associate Librarian of the University of Chicago. Over four hundred pages are filled with an alphabetically arranged subject list of "works of fiction which are founded on fact—historical, physical, psychological, or moral." Foreign fiction is included. The arrangement and subdivision of subjects are beyond criticism. Under "English History" a separate list is given for each century. Names of individuals—as, Mirabeau, Charlotte Corday, Constantine, Luther—are included in the subject list, as well as names of countries, States, cities, battles, periods, and a host of miscellaneous titles such as Adventure, Frontier Life, Future Life, Ministers, Authorship, Spiritualism, etc., etc. In fact, the only improvement we could suggest would be a weeding out of the less meritorious novels and the putting in their place of a little more specific information about those retained. To do this, however, would be to make another book altogether. Libraries will find this work almost indispensable. (Dodd, Mead & Co., New York.)

The Outlook.
Oct. 23^d - 1897.

Novels of history and place have often enough been classified for systematic reading. The Boston Public Library and the Mercantile Library of this city have both published such lists. Professor Allen has provided one in his course of historical study and reading fifteen years ago. The index of prose fiction issued by the Library of the University of California offers another useful guide. A comprehensive list was, however, greatly needed and it has been at last furnished by Miss Zella Allen Dixon, of Chicago University, in a "Subject Index to Prose Fiction." No library can be without it for a day. To the historical teacher it will be invaluable and no one called, as some of us are, to direct the reading of those younger, but will find it useful. Under countries, places, names of historical characters, periods of history and some leading subjects, like "Money," "Criminology," "Social Purity," "Slavery," etc., are arranged the general body of English novels and many French and German, with some in other tongues. The list is not exhaustive, as Miss Dixon admits. Small mistakes occur, as "Hajji Baba" is not under Persia. The article in German titles decides alphabetization, but not in French—the latter is right. As a whole the list is surprisingly full and accurate and I trust a second edition will have an author index and give a list of subjects. In the bibliographical field few more useful books have appeared this year.

Book News. Nov. 1897.

Mrs. Dixon's Book.

We have recently had the pleasure of reviewing "Subject Index to Prose Fiction," a comprehensive volume of the many subjects of prose fiction, by Mrs. Zella Allen Dixon, A. M.; Librarian of Chicago University, who recently spoke here before the Woman's Club. The book contains a careful classification of all books on fiction of every character and to those who are interested in obtaining in a correct manner, books of fiction upon any subject, this volume is indispensable and of untold worth. It not only aids those who are desirous of informing themselves on any special subject, but to those who wish to vary the character of their reading, affords a complete and concise index to all publications of any importance. The book is the result of careful study on the part of its author and evidences her ability as an authority on literary history. It is from the press of Dodd, Mead & Co., and is rapidly gaining in favor among literary people who are learning its worth.

Marengo Republican.
Dec. 10th - 1897.

Subject Index to Prose Fiction.

Zella Allen Dixon, associate librarian of the University of Chicago, has prepared a "Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction," which will be of great value to any one who has to do with novels and romances. When one considers that for over fifteen years fiction has formed 60 per cent of the yearly output of the publishers in this country and in England, the importance of a well classified guide like this may be appreciated. The compiler has made no effort to include all novels, but simply those written with some definite purpose, either to present a picture of an historical epoch or character, or to further reform, or to present the contrast between vice and virtue. The classification of fiction, especially historical romance, will be very helpful to students, while, as the author says, it may lead many to exercise more care in the choice of the novels that they read.

There is little to criticize in the work, except the affectation of dropping the capitalization of the main words in titles and the pedantry of insisting upon giving the baptismal name when an author has seen fit to drop a portion of it. There is no better reason for loading Bret Harte with his abandoned given name of Francis than there would be for prefixing to Bayard Taylor's name the good old Biblical name of Jacob which his Quaker parents gave him. It is also a trifle hard on Joaquin Miller to call the name by which he has been known for thirty years a pseudonym and to revert to Cincinnatus Heine. (New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.; price \$2.)

San Francisco Chronicle.
Nov. 7th - 1897.

THE READER'S GUIDE.

A Comprehensive Subject Index to Prose Fiction, by Zella Allen Dixon, Librarian of the University of Chicago, is a new book in a new and needy field. Bibliography of Library Science, is only in its infancy, and this is one of the few books of its kind that has appeared. Originality not only characterizes the book and its aim, but also the author in more ways than one. For instance she is the first woman library expert in the world, the first woman lecturer on "Library Science," and the first to give courses in a university extension department. Subject Index of Prose Fiction is a scientific classification of all novels with a purpose and worthy of reading that are to be found within the range of English literature. It tells the student what to read, where to find the historical, physical, psychological and moral facts which are scattered everywhere over the delightful field of fiction waiting to be gathered but so often missed for want of just such a guide as this book will prove to be.

The Subject Index will introduce not only pleasure, but plan and purpose into reading, something so needed in this day of many books and yet so evidently lacking among a large majority of readers.

It will be of equal help to those who have time to read much and those who must confine their reading along the lines of special occupation or profession. Having decided upon the theme, the country, the period of history to which you would give attention, the Index will prove a most invaluable and delightful guide as you enter that wilderness of volumes in one of our modern libraries.

Instead of giving up in despair, saying "what shall I read?" you will find that the Index has already wisely settled that question for you and indicated the very shelf to which you are to go. It is easy to see also of what special help the work will be in the hands of every pastor, college instructor, librarian or bookseller. The book has already been ordered by a number of libraries on the coast and has reached a large sale in the East, where the author is known to be a cultured and traveled expert as a librarian. The book in handsome and substantial binding is published by Dodd, Mead & Company. Address Zella Allen Dixon, Librarian of the University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

Pacific Baptist.
Oct. 28-1897.

Miss Dixon's Fiction Index.

WHEN the man who opposes the novel with a purpose sees a copy of "Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction," compiled by Miss Zella Allen Dixon, he must be convinced of the total depravity of novelists. For it includes everything from agnosticism to zoology. It has been the author's idea to prepare a complete manual of reference for those who wish to imbibe information by means of fiction and are too lazy to read the sources where the information may be had at first hand. The list is comprehensive; for it includes all important works of fiction founded on fact, historical, physical, psychological or moral; all "novels with a purpose," those which are sent out into the world with a definite lesson to teach mankind," as Miss Dixon puts it. The book will be of special value to teachers who wish to direct their pupils along special lines of reading, awaking in their untrained minds a desire for an acquaintance with undiluted history or science. It certainly will prove indispensable to libraries, for it seems to be reliable, and such trifling inaccuracies as "Looking Backwards" for "Looking Backward" will not affect its value as a work of reference. (Dodd, Mead & Co.)

Times Herald, Chicago.
Nov. 13-97.

AN INDEX TO FICTION.

A very useful little book in any public library, as well as to the general reader, is Mrs. Zella Allen Dixon's "Subject Index to Prose Fiction." Many lists of historical fiction have been made, but this is the first systematic attempt to classify works of fiction in accordance with their prominent thought or purpose. The subject headings are arranged alphabetically and a selection from those under the letter "A" will give an idea of the comprehensive scope of the work. These include abbeys, acting and actors adventure, agnosticism, allegories, altruism, anarchism, ancient history (subdivided into periods), archaeology, army and navy life, art, astronomy, authorship, besides the names of many individuals and ten or a dozen cities, states and countries. Much novel reading is of course aimless, just as many novels are without other purpose than to amuse. But a large amount of present-day fiction is written with a definite purpose—to impress some lesson, to convey some truth, to clothe some important fact in the pleasing garb of a story; and those who wish to supplement more solid reading or study with something which may instruct as well as entertain, or stimulate and inspire as well as amuse, will find Mrs. Dixon's book an invaluable aid and guide.

Aurora Daily Express.
Nov. 8-1897.

Hand-Books.

"The Comprehensive Subject—Index to Universal Prose Fiction." Compiled and arranged by Zella Allen Dixon, associate Librarian of the University of Chicago. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co. Cushing & Co.

This is a classified hand-book of the prose fiction of all countries. It is a work needed and valuable. The names taken from foreign countries are, of course, a selection, but the prose fiction of the United States is remarkably well covered. Works like the "Ruth Emsley" of W. H. Carpenter—a work which was well received in its day, but has long been out of print—are found and named. The topical headings are varied—not only is the prose fiction of the different countries here, but special subjects are put under their appropriate departments.

The book will probably go through a second edition, and it would be an improvement to have a guide to the value of the different books. They are now all lumped together—the worthless with the good and the good with the very good and the classic. Under Maryland, for instance, the only work of importance is Kennedy's "Rob of the Bowl," though there are seven other titles given. Under "Intemperance" the two best works are omitted—"A Singular Life" and "L'Assommoir."

All these faults are slight and detract but little from the great benefit to be derived from the work as an assistant to the general reader and an aid to those desiring to take up a special line of study in fiction.

Baltimore Sun.
Nov. 5-1897.

Other books from the press of Dodd, Mead & Co. include "Subject Index to Prose Fiction," by Zella Allen Dixon, associate librarian of the University of Chicago; "A Dog of Constantinople," by Izora C. Chandler, and "The Green Guess Book," by Susan Ward and Mary Watson. The first of these is a volume that will be of much use to students of books. Miss Dixon has not attempted to index all fiction, but only such novels in English (and a limited number written in other tongues) as have been written to illustrate manners, times, or with other distinct purpose. This category includes, as a matter of course, all historical novels, so called. The writer states that her intent was to include all works of fiction which are founded on facts, historical, physical, psychological, or moral, but she reserved to herself the right to discard "purpose" novels, wherein the facts forming the foundation of the stories seemed to her so misrepresented or misstated as to be an injury rather than a help to the reader. It might be objected that this test, properly applied, would throw out an enormous number of the supposedly historical novels that are here included; also that any claim to exclude novels that are written to amuse only would bar out all detective stories, all compilations of folklore, and many that find a place here simply because their scenes are alleged to be in a particular locality. But we are not disposed to be critical of a work which, though not perfect, should earn the approval—as a time-saver, if for no other reason—of all brain workers.

Chicago Inter-Ocean.
Oct. 23' 1897.

Miss Zella Allen Dixon, Associate Librarian of the University of Chicago, has compiled a "Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction" (Dodd, Mead & Co.), which certainly promises to win a respected place on the shelves to which such books of reference are assigned. Any one laboring upon a description of the Battle of Waterloo, for instance, has only to turn to that head and he will find the titles of all the works of fiction in which the event is celebrated. The alphabetical plan is followed and this proves convenient. Our only criticism is of the utterly useless expansion of the volume through an explicit entry for each translation of a foreign book. Surely one title would have been sufficient, with an asterisk or some other sign to indicate when a translation existed, or with a parenthetical note when the English version happened to be published under a different name.

New York Tribune.
Oct. 19' 1897.

The Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction. Compiled and Arranged by Zella Allen Dixon, A. M. We have here an elaborate attempt to arrange an alphabetical subject list of those fictions which are founded on fact. Foreign fiction is included with some limitations. Of course, the work is incomplete, but it is so much better than could be expected that one is disposed only to praise the care and labor and to commend the judgment which the volume displays. It is a labor-saving device which will be appreciated by writers and authors and readers. Dodd, Mead and Co.

New York Observer.
Oct. 28' 1897.

Every student and writer will feel indebted to the Associate Librarian at Chicago, Zella Allen Dixon, for a "Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction" (Dodd, Mead & Co.). This work is an arrangement into an alphabetical subject list of works of fiction which are founded on fact, historical, physical, psychological, or moral. Booksellers, librarians and the reading public generally have long felt the need of some arrangement of this character. The list, however, while it is comprehensive is by no means exhaustive; nevertheless, it is a very useful work, and is within the reach of the ordinary reader, while it gives information which hitherto could be found only in expensive catalogues and indices which are in use by the librarians of large institutions. The work is so arranged that a student seeking information on any particular subject will find a list of fiction bearing on that subject, whether it be the life and times of George III., Spanish History, or the times of the Druids, etc.

N.Y. Commercial Advertiser.
Oct. 23' 1897.

THE subject index to prose fiction, by Mrs Zella A. Dixon, has been issued and will undoubtedly prove a very helpful tool in the hands of the busy librarian or of anyone who uses it. It groups in a straight alphabetical list all the novels founded on fact and written with a purpose in mind. It certainly will be a useful key to unlock the great storehouse of useful information which is so often carried in the covers of fiction and is as often thereby concealed. The reviewers speak very highly of Mrs Dixon's work.

Public Libraries.
Nov. - 1897.

"Subject Index of Fiction."—This is an alphabetical subject list of works of fiction which are founded on fact—historical, physical, psychological or moral—compiled by Zella Allen Dixon, with the object of making it possible to use with a purpose our reading for entertainment, or for the employment of leisure, and thus, as the compiler says: "Permit the accumulation of much useful and instructive information in the form of a sugar-coated pill." This contribution to bibliography is one which must prove of service and real value to booksellers, librarians, and the reading public generally, and we can readily see how it can serve those interested in the study of any particular epoch by placing before them a list of all the fiction dealing with that time. It will prove a labor-saver and a valuable source of information. Its arrangement is simple and direct and it includes foreign fiction and translations as well as English. Only novels with a purpose are included; silly love stories and trash are "barred." (New York: Dodd, Mead & Co. Detroit and Ann Arbor: J. V. Sheehan & Co.)

Detroit Free Press.
Oct. 18' 1897.

Messrs. Dodd, Mead & Co. will publish a "Comprehensive Index to Universal Prose Fiction," by Zella Allen Dixon, A. M., Librarian of the University of Chicago. It is described as "an arrangement into an alphabetical list of all works of fiction, in all languages, which are founded upon facts, historical, physical, psychological, or moral"—in other words, "novels with a purpose," and no others. It will embrace more than 10,000 entries.

Providence Journal.
Oct. 25-1897.

Miss Zella Allen Dixon, associate librarian of the University of Chicago, has compiled a "Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction." (Dodd, Mead & Co.), which certainly promises to win a respected place on the shelves to which such books of reference are assigned. Any one laboring upon a description of the battle of Waterloo, for instance, has only to turn to that head and he will find the titles of all the works of fiction in which the event is celebrated. The alphabetical plan is followed and this proves convenient. Our only criticism is of the utterly useless expansion of the volume through an explicit entry for each translation of a foreign book. Surely, one title would have been sufficient, with an asterisk or some other sign to indicate when a translation existed, or with a parenthetical note when the English version happened to be published under a different name.

New Haven Leader.
Nov. 23-1897.

FICTION INDEX.
"The Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction," compiled and arranged by Zella Allen Dixon, A. M., Associate Librarian of the University of Chicago, is a work which will serve for use in various ways. It is an "arrangement into alphabetical subject list of works of fiction which are founded on fact, historical, physical, psychological, or moral." * * * "It has not been the object of the author to include in this topical arrangement all works of fiction, but only novels with a purpose, those which are sent out into the world with a definite lesson to teach mankind. The author reserves the right, even in this narrow limit, to discard many purpose novels where the facts forming the foundation of the stories have been so misrepresented or misstated as to be an injury rather than a help to the reader. Such an index must necessarily include very largely the writers of our own century. The older works of fiction, with a few notable exceptions, deal with intense love affairs, and have no other object than the whiling away of an idle hour. During our own century the novel has come to have a very different sphere. It is no longer sufficient that the work of fiction be an avenue through which the reader may follow the workings of an overwrought imagination. Better still, it has ceased to be a boast among educated and intelligent people that they are not novel readers. On the contrary, it is now an established fact that no one can claim to be well educated in the highest sense of the term who is unfamiliar with the best fiction of other literatures." (Dodd, Mead & Co., New York;

Cleveland Leader.
Nov. 7-1897.

REFERENCE.

Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction, The. Compiled and arranged by Zella Allen Dixon, A. M. 421 pp. 12mo, \$2.00; by mail, \$2.14.

An arrangement into an alphabetical subject list of works of fiction which are founded on fact, historical, physical, psychological, or moral. It has arranged by subjects alphabetically, the novels (with the title and author) whose scene is historical, by countries and novels covering a particular subject—as criminology, detectives, dogma, or introducing an historical character, under subject or name. English fiction and translations into fiction are both covered.

Book News.
Nov. 1897.

A positively useful book is one which quickly commends itself and especially if its work is such as to help large numbers of readers and students. Such a one is that given to us by Zella Allen Dixon of the Library of the University of Chicago. Its title tells its story, "The Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction." It is an arrangement into an alphabetical subject list of works of fiction which are founded on fact, historical, physical, psychological or moral. It will take its place among the valuable books of reference which readers of every literary class are ready to appreciate. It is published by Dodd, Mead & Co., New York.

Brooklyn Eagle.
Nov. 1-1897.

AN INDEX TO PROSE FICTION.

Zella Allen Dixsen, librarian of the University of Chicago, is the author of a valuable "Subject Index to Prose Fiction," which is already in use in hundreds of libraries in England and America, and even in Japan. The *Book News* for this month says: "To the historical teacher it will be invaluable, and no one called, as some of us are, to direct the reading of those younger, but will find it useful. Under countries, places, names of historical characters, periods of history, and some leading subjects, like 'money,' 'criminology,' 'social purity,' etc., are arranged the general body of English novels, and many French and German, with some in other tongues. . . . As a whole, the lists are surprisingly full and accurate. In the bibliographical field few more useful books have appeared this year." It is an excellent work. The next edition should include among the classified subjects a list of novels dealing with the woman question.

The Woman's Journal.
Nov. 27-1897.

Next to creation is criticism. Perhaps the world has been blessed with more great authors than great critics. Schiller may have been a greater poet than Lessing but Lessing's service to German literature perhaps stands next to Goethe's. Matthew Arnold lacked the kindling spark which goes with the divine afflatus but he had the clear vision and the diligent quest which made him a great interpreter of other people's writings, and through him the acquaintance of the English reading people with good literature was immeasurably enhanced. Books that are real introductions to other books, that point the way to where the good things are, are always of immense value.

Such a book is "The Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction" (Dodd, Mead & Co., New York,) prepared by the associate librarian of the University of Chicago, Zella Allen Dixon. Here is a book of 420 pages of classified novels which ought to become an invaluable tool in the mental workshop of the intelligent. It is an instrument of culture. It is only the ignorant or the bigoted that now regard the novel as "light reading" or as that which is to occupy only the leisure of men and women. The novel is the avenue through which perhaps the best poetry, the tenderest philanthropy and profoundest philosophy find most adequate expression in these days. Much of the high thinking as well as of the deep feeling of our generation finds its best expression in the novel, hence the great value of this book. The librarian and those who have much to do with books will promptly appreciate it, but we commend it to the buyers of few books and the busy people who have time to read but few. This book will save such from being at the mercy of the "latest novel" or the most persistent book agent. This will enable one to read topically into fiction. Opening the book at random we find under "Criminology" forty-two titles, with such names as Hawthorne, Howells, Hall Caine, and Conan Doyle; under "Oliver Cromwell," twenty-four novels; "Child Life," forty-four, with a cross reference to three more stories illustrative of the "Children's Crusades." To those who direct children's readings, thirty-five books on Zoölogy offer a tempting list, reaching from Charles Kingsley's "Water Babies" to Victor Hugo's "Toilers of the Sea." A monument of diligence as is the book, it is of course not perfect, and it is a book that will grow through subsequent editions. The distinction

between the English novels and those in foreign languages and a little more definite notation of the foreign language in which the book is found would be an improvement. There are some topics manifestly not so intelligently compiled as others, but these are suggestions for the editor rather than for the public and it is to be hoped that those using the book will promptly inform the editor of the sins of commission and omission that the future editions of this really valuable book may be still more valuable.

The New Unity
Dec. 2 - 1907.

Literary Notes.

©©©

Written for THE TEA CUPS.

BOOK REVIEWS

BY VIOLA PRICE FRANKLIN.

The Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction. By Zella Allen Dixon, A. M., Associate Librarian of the University of Chicago. Dodd, Mead & Co., New York. Cloth, \$2.00. Full Morocco, \$5.00.

This most valuable book should find a place upon every student's table and in every library in the country. Mrs. Dixon has rendered the large body of students, throughout the land, an invaluable service in thus compiling and arranging the works of fiction in many languages. Over four hundred pages are filled with an alphabetic arrangement of the various books of fiction "founded on fact, historical, physical, psychological, or moral." The author's judgment is shown in her preface when she states it has not been her object to include all works of fiction, "but only novels with a purpose, those which are sent out into the world with a definite lesson to teach mankind." That she is in touch with the modern attitude toward fiction is manifest. "The older works of fiction, with a few notable exceptions, deal with intense love affairs, and have no other object than the whiling away an idle hour. During our own century the novel has come to have a very different sphere. It is no longer sufficient that the work of fiction be an avenue through which the reader may follow the working of an overwrought imagination. Better still, it has ceased to be a boast among educated

and intellectual people that they are not novel readers. On the contrary, it is now an established fact that no one can claim to be well educated in the highest sense of the term who is unfamiliar with the best fiction of other literatures."

The fact that recently the study of fiction has been considered worthy of a place in the curriculum of our best universities, such as Yale, Harvard and Chicago is another strong proof of the increasing value placed upon fiction, and that an intelligent knowledge of the same is no small factor in a liberal education. Such a book as this fills a long felt want. Previously, only arrangements of fiction lists by author or, perhaps, by period, were available. One of the great advantages to be derived from this book is that it makes it "possible to use with a purpose even the leisure reading of the books we 'take up for an hour' and will permit the accommodation of much useful and instructive information."

The author brought to this labor of love, years of ripened experience, gathered in her work as librarian, and from her vast acquaintance with books in all languages, was enabled to make a most valuable selection. Her excellent judgment is well shown in the plan of the work. Surely the method of arrangement, subdivisions of subject, &c.—could not be improved upon. Take for instance, "German History." There is a separate list of reference books for each century. Then special countries as "Germany" are classed under such topics as "Description, Manners, and Customs." Again, the novels based upon history are very comprehensively treated, for instance, those founded upon the history that clusters about the name of "Louis XIV. of France" number as high as seventy-one. What a treat to any student who desires to become thoroughly familiar with the time of this most powerful king, thus to trace him through these various books, and note the different points of view.

A student interested in cities will find the lists here most beneficial, as that of "Paris," with eighty books treating of its life. Here may be found, also, all that wealth of romance and story growing out of thrilling adventures of our wars; "The Revolution," for instance, has a list of about one hundred and fifty novels, while the "The Revolution in France" has nearly one hundred. Special battles

are fully treated under separate heads.

There is a host of miscellaneous titles such as "Sin," "Society," "Dogmas," "Folk-lore," all comprehensively treated, and speaking volumes for the versatility of the compiler.

There are so many ways in which this reference book will be found invaluable to the student. One interested in studying the folk-lore of various countries will find listed here the very bibliography which he needs, or, one investigating the growth of legends can find here just what has been done in this field, and where he can find much of interest on the subject.

Indeed, Mrs. Dixon has put the scholarly and literary public under lasting obligations to her, for performing such a needed task that will make the road of investigation so easy to future students. In every respect, the work is first class, and its helpful and suggestive pages will be a never ceasing source of satisfaction. Everywhere, does this volume show marks of the scholarly character of Mrs. Dixon's work, for it is replete with the results of her research in many libraries, not only in this country but also in Europe.

As a ready reference book it will prove indispensable to any private library, while its value must be appreciated by every librarian in the country. What Poole's Index is to magazine literature, this will prove to all fiction, and it will fill just as important a place on the shelves of libraries.

Its accuracy will commend itself to investigators. No danger of being mistaken under the guidance of such an expert student of books. Its reliability must remain unquestioned. The value of the book is enhanced by the great care taken in making the index of special value, on account of the minute classifications, excellent selection, keen discrimination and faithful judgment exercised in its preparation. As an important addition to reference books, I know not of its equal among recent publications.

Another commendable feature of this work is that there is no perceptible sense of disproportion in the selection of books upon a certain subject. It is evident that Mrs. Dixon took a correct perspective of the large field and that her superior judgment enabled her to select only the best. The conception and design of the work must meet with universal approval.

The author's vast fund of book knowledge well equipped her for such a work, and her critical insight enabled her to make it a storehouse of useful information, and it will certainly rank as a distinct addition to valuable reference books.

The publishers have made the outward form besit the nature of the contents. It is beautifully printed, and tastily bound. No library can afford to do without such an indispensable book upon its shelves.

Over the Tea Cups.
Nov. 13' - 1897.

Two good reference books for the trade and literary people generally appeared last month—viz., *A Subject Index to Prose Fiction*, by Zella Allen Dixon, and *A Dictionary of American Authors*, by Oscar Fay Adams. These should find a place on every bookman's desk.

The Bookman.
Nov. - 1897.

"The Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction."

By Zella Allen Dixon, A.M. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.

Mrs. Dixon, the associate librarian of the University of Chicago, has done a fine piece of bibliography in this beautifully printed index. Her purpose has been to make, not an exhaustive, but a comprehensive subject index of English and American prose fiction, with a fair selection from the literatures of Europe. In a volume of 420 pages she has collected the titles and authors of works of fiction on almost every conceivable subject, with abundant cross-references to aid in searching for a book. In her preface she suggests that the usefulness of the index need not be confined to librarians, for

there are thousands of people who read enough fiction to make it worth while for them to have some system in their reading. Instead of merely taking the new books as they come out, sensible people who have the time to read fiction will try to become familiar with the best fiction of the past. By using such a guide as this, one may read up a subject in a new and delightful style—whether it be history, or science, or travel, or in these latter days, theology. Of course the index is indispensable for all public libraries, large or small. It has already been adopted in most of the leading libraries of the country. (Price, cloth \$2. half morocco \$3.50, full morocco, \$5).

Chicago Standard.
Nov. 20' - 1897.

One of the most timely books of the season is the "Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction," by Zella Allen Dixon, librarian of the University of Chicago. The time is past when authors give expression to their theories of reform in dull treatises. The novelist is one of the most effective reformers of the day. Dixon's Index takes this vast mass of valuable material

and classifies it for the busy students; thus making it possible for every reader to collect information in regard to the burning questions of the day through the pleasant channels of "fiction."

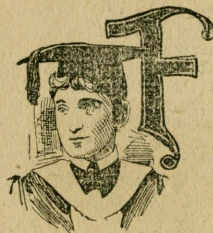
This work is an arrangement into an alphabetical subject list of works of fiction, in all languages, which are founded on fact, historical, physical, psychological, or moral. Teachers especially will find this is a time-saver in making out reference lists for the class-room study. Literary clubs will find in this index to the knowledge of the ages a careful guide to courses in reading on every conceivable subject. Parents will welcome it as an exhaustless mine of information for the home library. It is, in fact, one of the most useful of indexes to all classes of literary workers. It is due to such masterpieces of bibliography that America is ranked as leader in the art of index making and all literary time-savers.

Orleans Republican.
Feb. 2' - 1898.

AMONG THE NEW BOOKS.

TWO VOLUMES OF ESPECIAL INTEREST TO ALL LIBRARIANS.

Mrs. Zella Allen Dixon's Index to Purpose Novels of All Sorts—New Volume of the Celebrated "Poole's Index to Periodical Literature"—One-third Larger than Previous Volumes—Dr. Poole's Nephew One of the Editors.



Zella Allen Dixon.

EW more valuable books for the librarian or the teacher have appeared in the last year than Zella Allen Dixon's "Subject Index to Prose Fiction" (Dodd-Mead). Mrs. Dixon is associate librarian of the University of Chicago, and is quite widely known through her lectures and her expert work in organizing various university libraries. During the eight years of her connection with the Chicago institution she has compiled the useful volume in question—the completest of its kind in existence.

Mrs. Dixon's index confines itself to novels of history, of place, and of purpose. Its chief value, therefore lies in its convenience to persons wishing to study a particular subject or epoch. Historical teachers will find it invaluable for the suggestion of collateral reading for their pupils. No librarian will need to be convinced of its desirability. The compiler has not attempted to make a complete list of all the purpose novels, but she may justly claim, as she does, to have made "a comprehensive list sufficient for all working purposes."

Utility has been the motive of the work throughout. This has led the compiler admittedly to omit from her list some novels which, in her opinion, so misrepresented their subjects as to be worse than useless. Her method has been to get all students using her lists to mark the volumes they found most useful in the lines marked out. The results are now embodied in this book of 400 pages, in which are arranged the general body of English novels, and many in the French, German, and other tongues. They are classified under the names of countries, places, historical characters, and also under some leading subjects, such as "Folk Lore," "Money," "Criminology," "Social Purity," and the like. One misses an index of authors, and a few technical errors catch the eye, but even as it stands the book is an excellent piece of work.

If Mrs. Dixon continues to keep her volume corrected to date through the coming years there is no reason why it should not become as much of a standard as "Poole's Index."

The Chicago Tribune.
Feb. 2' - 1898.

Dodd, Mead & Co., New York, are the publishers of Subject Index to Prose Fiction, by Zella Allen Dixon associate librarian of the University of Chicago. This index confines itself to novels of history, of place, and of purpose. Its chief value, therefore, lies in its convenience to persons wishing to study a particular subject or epoch. Historical teachers will find it invaluable for the suggestion of collateral reading for their pupils. No librarian will need to be convinced of its desirability.

The Bookseller.
Feb. 1898.

A work of considerable value to owners of large libraries, and especially to students of literature, is "The Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction," by Zella Allen Dixon, associate librarian, University of Chicago. The volume is in the press of Dodd, Mead & Co.

Evening Telegram.
Phil. pa. Feb. 14' 1898.

A work of considerable value to owners of large libraries, and especially to students of literature, is "The Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction," by Zella Allen Dixon, associate librarian, University of Chicago. The volume is from the press of Dodd, Mead & Co., New York.

Chicago Journal.
Feb. 8' - 1898.

Dodd, Mead and Co. announce a work of considerable value to owners of large libraries and to students of literature in "The Comprehensive Subject Index to Universal Prose Fiction," by Z. A. Dixon, associate librarian, University of Chicago.

Indianapolis News, Ind.
Feb. 23' 98.

Houghton, Mifflin & Co. have published a dictionary of American authors, by Oscar Fay Adams, which is a very handy manual with a great deal in it. Each author's work is characterized very briefly, the dates of his and her life are given, with the titles of chief works. "Subject Index to Prose Fiction," by Zella Allen Dixon, A.M., Associate Librarian of the University of Chicago (New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.), is a work of a different sort. The title explains itself. The work seems to be well done. Foreign fiction in the Latin alphabet and translations thereof are included. The book is an aid to novel reading with a purpose.

The Churchman, (New York City)
Mar. 12' 1898.

Mrs. Zella Allen Dixon.

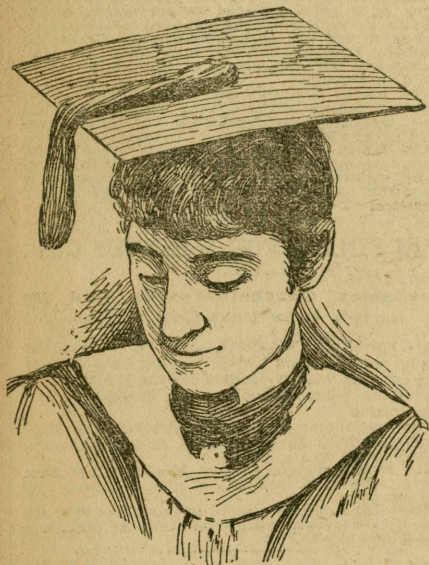
A recent copy of "The Chicago South Side Sayings," contains an excellent likeness of Mrs. Zella Allen Dixon, Librarian of the University of Chicago, who addressed the Woman's Club of Marengo a few months ago. It also gives an extended review of her book, "Subject Index to Prose Fiction," and speaks in highest terms of its value to literary people. Many of our people have the honor of Mrs. Dixon's acquaintance and feel that her success is sincerely merited.

Marengo Republican.
March. 18' 1898.

MRS. DIXSON'S USEFUL INDEX.

Covers Subjects Treated Of in Novels
of a Serious Nature.

PROMINENT among the intellectual women of the times is Mrs. Zella Allen Dixon, the librarian of the University of Chicago. She has lately brought out a catalogic book entitled "Subject Index to Fiction," which has had an immediate and wonderful success. The index is already in 500 libraries and in many literary homes. Mrs. Dixon has been at work on this book for many years and finished her labors last



ZELLA ALLEN DIXON.
[Librarian of University of Chicago.]

summer. She has been librarian at the big university since it was opened, and before she assumed her duties there she was librarian at Columbia College.

The index is concerned with works of fiction of a serious nature or those founded upon facts. It covers all languages and all "purpose" novels wherein historical, psychological, physical, or moral subjects are treated. It is a distinct gain to literature and its existence is a recognition of the serious phase which fictional literature has assumed within the past score of years.

Chicago Times-Herald.
March 26, 1898.