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Recent Gifts

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ing serenely on. We must do our best, and our own personal best, even if it is to empty benches. And if we do, fresh stragglers will come up and seat themselves. I do not know whether you will not even resent the suggestion that your crowd has moved on? I hope it hasn't. Mine has. At least, I think so: but how can we tell what our crowd is? Perhaps, when we are most disconsolate, somebody is reading us with infinite joy at Coolgardie or at Vancouver.

Always sincerely and admiringly yours

EDMUND GOSSE

[P.S.] Why do you give me a "W."?

It is pleasant to be able to observe that Gosse took his own advice and proved "the reality of the faith that was in him by going serenely on." A year later, he published (anonymously) his famous Father and Son; in 1908 appeared his admirable Life of Ibsen, and in 1911 his Collected Poems. Violet Paget also took his advice to heart. She suppressed the "undertone of sadness" and went resolutely ahead with her study of "psychological aesthetics," and in 1913 her book on The Beautiful was published by the Cambridge University Press.

RECENT GIFTS

Among the volumes recently presented to the Library are two which can be most appropriately announced at this time. From Mr. Dan H. Laurence, of New York City, we have received two of Vernon Lee's books. One is a copy of the 1907 illustrated edition of Studies of the Eighteenth Century in Italy which was once the property of Maya Owen, for whom Vernon Lee obligingly autographed the book and added: "wishing I had given it to her myself." The other volume is Louis Norbert (London, John Lane, 1914), inscribed: "To dear Maya | from Vernon | Summer 1914." We are not sure but we think it likely that the Maya Owen of these inscriptions was Lady Mackenzie.