CHAPTER FIVE

CONCLUSION

With the phenomenal increase in the number of books printed and distributed all over the world on diverse topics, it has become practically impossible for any earnest scholar to gather all the works bearing on the subject of his research. Coupled with the rapid growth of scholarly material is the problem of duplication of research in a given area. Confronted with the twin problems of vastness of literature and avoidance of duplication, a research scholar needs a select bibliography on scientific lines in order to plan his study. In this context the importance of bibliography becomes evident. It answers a specialized requirement. It is therefore the basic material in any scholarly endeavour. Bibliography is not a mere library catalogue. It is an attempt towards classification to facilitate the identification and scope of the text concerned. It provides a much needed perspective while the scholar is engaged in the critical and thematic evaluation of the author/authors concerned. Quick and easy access to information is provided leading to the proper use of books and
other materials and thus promoting the useful application of knowledge. It has been rightly said that "Science would not be able to advance but for the existence of bibliography." The importance of bibliography is further explained:

The basic aim of a bibliography is to assist the user in locating the existence of or identifying a book or any other material which may be of interest to him. In the case of a researcher, a bibliography enables him to find out what has already been written on his subject and allows him to keep himself well-informed and up-to-date. This avoids duplication in research, saving him both time and money. The secondary aim of a bibliography is to serve as a tool for book selection, the identification and verification of bibliographic details, location of material. ...1

With this view in mind, the present bibliography is prepared to shed light on the extant scholarship bearing on 19th century American Short Story with special reference to Stephen Crane and Jack London.

To sum up,

Chapter One details the importance of bibliography as a tool of literary research, and examines the nature and scope of short story as a literary form. Chapter Two introduces the socio-cultural and literary background that has sustained the themes and shaped the work of Stephen Crane and Jack London. The Chapters Three and Four situate the authors of bibliographical study -- Stephen Crane and Jack London -- in a literary context with a brief critical view of their work.