

FORTHCOMING ENGLISH BOOKS.

BIOGRAPHY A FEATURE IN THE NEW LISTS NOW OUT.

LIFE OF PRINCE OF WALES—STATISTICS OF PUBLISHING IN 1897—NEW NOVELS ON THE WAY—THE TRAVELS OF PRINCE HENRI OF ORLEANS—THE GORDON HIGHLANDERS.

LONDON, Dec. 30, 1897.

EARLY in January the "Life of the Prince of Wales," which has been much delayed by the printing strike in Edinburgh, will appear. Grant Richards is the publisher. The authorship is still a secret, several denials having been given to the statement that the biographer is Mr. H. D. Traill, editor of *Literature*. Mr. Richards, by the way, is an instance of a publisher turning author, as he is writing, in conjunction with Mr. G. W. Stevens, the journalist, a romance giving the adventures of an Englishman translated backwards to the days of the Roman Empire.

It is announced that Gay & Bird, will publish January 3 the English edition of the work just concluded by Justin Winsor, the librarian of Harvard College, who died a few weeks ago. The book's title is "The Westward Movement: the Struggle for the Trans-Alleghany Region, 1763-1797."

Princess Beatrice, widow of the late Prince Henry of Battenberg, has published at Warmstadt a devotional book dealing with widows' mourning. It is written in German and contains a preface by the Rev. Mr. Vogel, a German clergyman, who says that he was requested to revise the work, but that he left unchanged many sentences which were not quite German, fearing to efface their originality.

The Publishers' Circular says that the output of books during the past year in Great Britain was larger by some 1,400 volumes than in 1896. In theology there is a rise of about 100 books, and in education 160, while politics and commerce show the notable augmentation of 300 books. While the demand for light reading also grows, the total increase in fiction is not as great as was expected. Travels and poetry are much the same as last year. The total number of books and new editions published in the past twelve months is 6,573. The smallest number is on law, 140, and the largest in novels, 2,677. There is revived interest in theology, while the arts and sciences show a falling off.

NEW FICTION.

Mr. Anthony Hope had settled upon the title "Born in the Purple" for his next novel. Apparently, however, this title has at some period been used for a book.

Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton are to publish immediately a new volume of Scott's sketches, by "David Lyall," under the name of "David Lyall's Love Story."

Mrs. Flora Annie Steel, the author of "On the Face of the Waters," has sailed for India with a view to writing another novel. The scene of the new story will probably be laid at Lucknow.

It is understood that Mr. Thomas Hardy has made considerable progress with a new novel.

Mrs. Croker's novel, "Miss Balmaine's Past," is announced by Messrs. Chatto for January 13. Somewhat later they will issue Mr. Henty's new story of adventure, "Colonel Thorndyke's Secret," and yet later a novel by Mr. Manville Fenn.

BIOGRAPHICAL WORKS, ETC.

"The Life and Letters of Sir George Savile, Baronet, First Marquis of Halifax," with a new edition of his works, now for the first time collected and revised by Mr. H. C. Foxcroft, is in preparation for early publication by Messrs. Longmans, Green & Co.

"Auld Lang Syne" is the title of Professor Max Muller's new book, which Messrs. Longmans & Co. will publish in January. The volume will contain literary and musical reminiscences as well as "Recollections of Royalties."

Mr. John Millais, the younger son of the late Sir J. E. Millais, is engaged on an exhaustive biography of his father. The book, which will be extensively illustrated with reproductions of the great artist's work, will not be ready for publication for some considerable time.

Early in the New Year Messrs. Blackie & Son will publish, under the title "The Two Duchesses," the family correspondence of, and relating to, Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire, Elizabeth, Duchess of Devonshire, the Earl and Countess of Bristol, Lord and Lady Byron, the Earl of Aberdeen, Sir Augustus Foster, and others, between the year 1777 and 1859.

Mr. Murray will publish shortly a book of a somewhat unusual kind, named "The Memoirs of a Highland Lady." It contains the reminiscences of Miss Grant, of Rothiemurchus, who became the wife of General Smith, of Baltiboy, county Wicklow, and died in 1885 in her eighty-ninth year. She left a minute record of her whole life, which was printed a short time ago for private circulation; but the interest which it aroused has been such as to induce the family to give it to the world. It furnishes a lively picture of those feudal feelings and that spirit of clanishness which still characterized Scottish

social life during the early part of the present century. The author's range of acquaintances was as varied as it was wide. Among the names of those whom she knew, or about whom she writes, are to be found Mr. Perceval, Mr. Canning, Lord Lauderdale, Sir Francis Burdett, Lords Eldon, Stowell and Jeffrey, Sir Walter Scott, Shelley, Mrs. Thrale, Mrs. Siddons and the Kembles. The work will be edited by Lady Strachey, a niece of the author.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Messrs. Methuen will publish on January 3, 1898, the long-expected volume in which Prince Henri of Orleans describes his travels of 1895-6, entitled "From Tonkin to India." These travels from China to the valley of the *Bramaputra* covered a distance of 2,100 miles, of which 1,600 were through absolutely unexplored country. No fewer than seventeen ranges of mountains were crossed, at altitudes of from 11,000 to 13,000 feet. The journey was made memorable by the discovery of the sources of the *Irrawaddy*. To the physical difficulties of the journey were added dangers from the attacks of savage tribes. The book will be found a most important contribution to the literature of adventure and discovery.

Mr. John Macqueen will publish in a day or two a small volume on the Gordon Highlanders, whose achievements at Dargai have excited so much interest. The writer is Mr. James Milne, who hails from the Aberdeenshire Highlands, a district with which the corps has been identified ever since its formation. The Gordon Highlanders have had a record as picturesque as their origin was romantic.

Dr. Alfred P. Hillier, who, after the Jameson Raid, was detained as a political prisoner in Pretoria, will issue early in the year a work entitled "Raid and Reform," comprising historical essays on the Transvaal, more particularly in the years 1895-6, and including the greater part of the author's diary during his imprisonment. Two pre-historical essays will treat of the dawn of native life in South Africa.

THE CONSTANT LEVEL INKSTAND.

Selby & Co., 23 Richmond street, Toronto, are handling a new patent inkstand known as the Automatic Constant Level Inkstand. It is a cute and clever device. Some of the advantages claimed for it are: No dip of the pen can ever carry away more than the proper quantity of ink, thereby effectually preventing blots; the ink is kept free from dust, hence it is exceedingly economical; self-feeding and easily cleaned, the ink keeps better and does not dry so quickly as in ordinary inkstands. The inkstand sells for 35c.