

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

"THE GREAT COMPANY."

"THE GREAT COMPANY," by Mr. Beckles Willson, which is now in press, is perhaps the most important Canadian publication of the year.

It is the history of the Honorable Company of Merchants - Adventurers trading into Hudson Bay, compiled now for the first time from the company's archives; from the journals of its factors and traders, from French and English diplomatic documents and State papers, and from many accounts and memoirs.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier says: "The history of the Hudson's Bay Company is little known.



MR. BECKLES WILLSON

Some day its annals will be unfolded to the inquisitive gaze of the world; then it will reveal itself as one of the most astonishingly perfect organizations ever devised by man. What a fascination

there is in that history! Of what development is it susceptible! What a strange alliance it exhibits of cold, calculating systematic organization and of adventurous, romantic experience!"

It is a lengthy and moving drama of commerce, of conquest, of dealings with savage tribes and sanguinary battles with rival traders. These events were transacted in what was until lately a remote region, and amongst a picturesque people. The Hudson's Bay Company was lord sovereign and paramount over a territory larger than Europe; its forts, amongst which was the most impregnable on the continent, were garrisoned by its servants; it had power to imprison and slay, to make war and declare peace. Founded in 1667 by Prince Rupert, its history is so closely interwoven with that of our Imperial heritage that it should be a matter of the deepest interest to every Canadian to know that through the courtesy of the present Governor, Lord Strathcona, every facility has been granted the author to render the narrative complete.

The book will contain about 30 chapters, and will deal with every aspect and event of the company's existence from the period just prior to its charter down to our own days.

A particularly pleasing feature of this book will be six full-page illustrations by Mr. Arthur Heming, of whose success in this line of work Canadians are justly proud. In fact, Mr. Heming has made such a special study of life in the Canadian wilds, that it is doubtful whether any other living artist could be so successful in illustrating this subject. (Price, \$3.)

"DOOLEY" A SELLER.

The new and enlarged edition of "Mr. Dooley in Peace and in War," issued by Morang & Co., has met with a most encouraging reception by the trade. The fact that the new issue contains three or four particularly good additional chapters, including one on Kipling and one on Lord Charles Beresford, added to the reduction in price to \$1, cloth, and 50c., paper, made its success assured. There seems no doubt that books that can be laughed over are one of the crying needs of the present day. Booksellers might do worse than bear this in mind in dealing with the great variety of customers they encounter. A review of the history of the retail book trade shows that



ROBERT NELSON STEPHENS.
Author of "A Gentleman Player."

there never yet has been a good and original book of humor brought forward that has not had a large measure of success. People

have no use for labored fun, but they enjoy a book like "Dooley," which is bright with epigram, though clothed in the dialect of the ordinary Irish saloonkeeper of Chicago.

"OWD BOB" AGAIN.

The popularity acquired by Alfred Ollivant's "Bob, Son of Battle," is a testimony to the ability of the Canadian public, and especially those of north country extraction, to know a good thing when they see it. The Canadian edition of "Bob, Son of Battle," brought out by Morang & Co., has been decidedly one of the most successful of the year. It is a story that anyone can read and that everyone is interested in. Not only is dog-nature admirably described in it, but the human accompaniments are exceedingly well put in. There is at least one



MR. ARTHUR W. MARCHMONT.

Author of "By Right of Sword," "A Dash for a Throne," etc.

character who permanently remains in the memory of the reader. We refer, of course, to the tough little Scotsman, McAdam, a man that one occasionally hates, sometimes pities, but can never forget.

STANDARD FICTION FOR SUMMER READING.

Although a proportion of Summer readers will be eager for the latest new things, there is a somewhat thick stratum of them who have not yet made themselves acquainted with some of the well-known masterpieces of well-known novelists. Some of them will be reserving their idle days in canoe and hammock for pulling up in reading that has been interfered with by the multiplicity of engagements that come with life in town. A few of the books that the trade might well assort their stocks with may be mentioned. Among them there are no better two than "The Prisoner of Zenda," and "Rupert of Hentzau," by Anthony Hope. These, of course, are books that sell "right along," that cannot be considered bad stock for