

NOTICES OF NEW BOOKS.

A MIST FROM YARROW. A story of the Hills. By A. J. B. Patterson. Paper, illustrated. 1s. Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier, Edinburgh.

A PRETTY Scotch tale. The plot is simple, based upon a young girl's loss of reason through an accusation of murder against her lover. The charge is disapproved, and the "lifting of the mist" from Nell Anderson's mind is finely and quaintly told. The little oblong book with its pretty illustrations is very taking.

A BRIDE FROM THE DESERT. By Grant Allen. Cloth, art. 5s. R. F. Fenno & Co., New York.

A thrilling adventure story of a wrecked East India steamer on the African coast. Part of the crew are massacred by Arabs, and all but two of the passengers who accompanied them meet the same fate. The rescue of these, both ladies, by the lover of one of them, is a story of unexampled danger and rapid action. Two other stories make up the volume, capital sketches in their way, and altogether forming a very readable summer book. The binding is most artistic.

THE SEATS OF THE MIGHTY. A Romance of Old Quebec. By Gilbert Parker. Cloth, \$1.25, paper, 75c. The Copp Clark Co., Toronto.

This is the strongest story Mr. Parker has written. In graphic absorbing interest it excels, and the personal charm of the characters: Dottaire, the Parisian diplomat and courtier, Alix Duvarney, the young daughter of the French Canadian seigneur, and Capt. Moray, who tells the story, is an attractive element with the reader. The book is lifelike, and history is not dragged to fill up the interstices, but Wolfe, Bigot, Vaudreuil and Montcalm are introduced naturally and skilfully. The author has rightly based the success of his tale on the adventures and dangers of Moray rather than upon an appeal to the general interest which centres around the events culminating in the battle of the Plains. Moray is a British prisoner unfairly held by the French at Quebec on account of his knowledge of a court intrigue. He is quartered at the manor house of a French seigneur near Quebec and falls in love with the daughter. Being removed to a dungeon in Quebec, his captivity is marked by rigorous treatment and he attempts to escape. His prison life is vividly described. Finally he runs the gauntlet, and after an exciting experience joins Wolfe's expedition against Quebec, and after the battle finds Alix and marries her. This is a mere outline of the plot, which is worked out with dramatic force and local coloring. The book should be a standing success in Canada, as it has not yet been equalled by the many romances of Quebec from other pens.

HIVIN MILLER. By W. Keith Lock. Cloth 1s. 6d. Famous Scots Series. Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier, Edinburgh.

This monograph is charmingly written. In five chapters the author presents a

vivid, yet comprehensive, picture of the conditions, domestic, religious and national, which produced Miller. His controversial labors at the time of the Disruption are very ably dealt with, and in fact the whole book teems with interest to the student of modern Scottish history. The note on Miller bibliography at the end is valuable.

TRUMPETER FRED. By Capt. Charles King. U. S. A. Illustrated. The Toronto News Co., Toronto.

One of the best of Capt. King's lively adventure stories. One of the best little summer novels in the market. Its pretty bindings, large type, and illustrations are of high standard.

JOHN KNOX. By A. Taylor Innes. Famous Scots Series No. 4. Cloth, 1s. 6d. Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier, Edinburgh.

This is a study of the personality and work of the great Reformer. It does not profess to be a comprehensive history of the stormy times of the Reformation in Scotland, and is all the better on this account. The character and career of Knox is the theme, and no extraneous matter is dragged in to make up the necessary book. Consequently we get a vivid and, in all essentials, truthful picture of a powerful man, the nature of whose intellect and the growth of whose belief are adequately dealt with. The book is striking and impressive in its constant devotion to the central figure, and the way the author subordinates all other men and events of the period to the leading idea leaves upon the mind a clearer picture of Knox than one gets in more ambitious biographies. The author's style is the reverse of commonplace or trivial. It is evident that this series of the enterprising publishers is being kept up to the standard, if not actually increasing in merit, as the volumes appear.

LINDSAY'S GIRL. By Mrs. Herbert Martin. Cloth, \$1.25. R. F. Fenno & Co., New York.

Mrs. Martin is the authoress of that delightful English story "Bonnie Lesley," and her new book well sustains her reputation. The plot requires skill to reconcile the reader to a breach of convention, and in a society novel conventionalism is a rigid master. Valentine Lindsay, the beautiful heroine, is the illegitimate daughter of Stuart Lindsay, a dissipated man of fashion. His love for his daughter is a redeeming feature. Upon his death she finds herself without a real friend in the world but her father's intimate, Lord George St. George, of fine character, a confirmed Radical, and at loggerheads with the earl, his father. Val. is wayward and ignorant of the world. Her social ostracism is a source of pain, increased to misery when her lover deserts her on account of her disreputable mother. She finally marries St. George. A meeting with her former lover nearly shipwrecks her married happiness, and only a serious accident to St. George brings about peace between them. The story is lively, and

Val's character is drawn with some power. If not brilliant, the book is entertaining and will be popular. The binding is handsome, and the publisher has done his part well.

THE HEART OF A MYSTERY. By T. W. Sleight. Cloth, \$1.25. R. F. Fenno & Co., New York.

A decidedly readable and pleasant tale. The murder of Mr. Hazeldine, the Ashdown bank cashier, brings several people into great difficulty. His fellow-employee, John Brancker, is tried for the crime, and acquittal leaves a stigma which threatens ruin to a very worthy man. His son, Edward Hazeldine, believes it was a case of suicide, and to return the £12,000 insurance on the banker's life means destitution to his family. Another son, Clement, grasps the situation with vigor, declares for the right, and the clouds melt away. The real murderer confesses, Clement clears up the mystery surrounding his fiancée, Herma Rivers, and the curtain falls on the good being rewarded and the bad getting their deserts. The plot is more intricate than this brief outline indicates. It is developed with much regard for the probable and considerable talent for constructing a story. The flavor of the book is excellent. It will take with English readers.

MARRIED IN THE MAKING. By H. W. Shrewsbury. Cloth, 2s. 6d. Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier, Edinburgh.

This is a fine moral tale, without a trace of mawkishness, and as interesting to old as to young. The experience of Fred. Wedmore at school and in after life is that of many another, but the temptations to which he succumbed are well worked out into narrative, and the book will be popular as a wholesome addition to the school library or the home.

THE MYSTERY OF PAUL CHADWICK. A bachelor-story. By John W. Postgate. Cloth. Laid & Lee, Chicago.

An absorbing modern story of passion, intrigue and tragedy. The interest never flags, and the air of reality throughout is doubtless due to its being a perfectly candid picture of actual life in the rapid whirl of American existence.

A NEW NOTE. By Ella MacMahon. Illus. cloth, \$1.25. R. F. Fenno & Co., New York.

The English reviews speak with surprising cordiality of this book. Their unanimity would be suspicious, if it were not clear to the reader that "A New Note" goes on its merits, and claims indulgence from none. It is written with a brightness, one may say a brilliancy and wit, quite above the average current novel. Upon this depends its success, for the plot is not startlingly original, though far from commonplace. Victoria Leathley, the talented daughter of a social and political personage, goes in for a musical career and becomes famous. For a career she throws over a devoted lover, Jerry Annesley. Her nature, she thinks, is hard, and the emotional has no place in