

in which the real interest centres round a trout and the poor maidens suffer accordingly. The heroines are incredibly wooden, the heroes anglers by instinct and lovers only by incident, but anyone who has ever fished will forget everything else in the exciting tournament of Angler versus Trout.

One of the sketches is a sort of satire on the war among the "professional nature-writers,"—the Tragedy of a Tomato. It is the least attractive of the twelve,—imagine a "day off" with a satirist for company! But the "Holiday in a Vacation" is charming enough to quite make up the balance. It is a reminiscence that recalls to anyone who has ever tasted the delights of a canoe trip, the endless variety of that most delightful of days off.

The book is plainly but rather attractively bound, edges rough-cut, illustrations colored and eight in number. Coming as it does from the pen of so well-known a writer, so near holiday-time, it will probably be a favorite Christmas present this year.

M.D.H.

Comments on Current Events.

IN McLure's Magazine, for December, President Eliot, of Harvard, has an article of some length on the Canadian Industrial Disputes Investigation Act. In the article the terms of the Act are set forth and explained. Then the results achieved through the operations of the Act are enumerated in such a manner as to illustrate the various merits inhering in it as a means of preventing industrial disputes. President Eliot is strong in his praise of the Industrial Disputes Act. He urges its adoption in his own country, enumerating the following advantages that it possesses over any legislation existing there:

- (1) There is no arbitration in it, compulsory or other.
- (2) It prevents sudden blows aimed by capital at labor or by labor at capital.
- (3) It prevents the sudden cessation of industries which have to do with such necessities of modern life as fuel, the means of transportation and communication, the lighting of towns and cities, and water and power supplies.
- (4) It makes it necessary for the aggressor in an industrial dispute to have a well-considered case that will stand publicity.
- (5) It informs the public, which ultimately bears, in higher prices, the burden of all industrial warfare, about the causes and issues of every industrial dispute.
- (6) At the same time it leaves unimpaired the right of any group of men to combine for mutual advantage, and to lock out, or to strike, after full public inquiry.
- (7) It tends to prevent or restrict secret machinations on the part of both employers and employees, because both know that publicity must come at last.
- (8) It gives opportunity, through the intervention of an impartial public authority, for reasoning, conciliation, the removal of misunderstanding, and an amicable settlement.