

love interest very human. Shippo, the little soldier hero, parts from one love and takes up another with apparent ease. He is impulsive and lowers his caste to marry the girl he loves. Then he repents, but the love of the girl-wife is constant, and in the end it is she who takes his place on the battlefield.

LYNDE, FRANCIS. — "The Quickening." Toronto: McLeod & Allen. Cloth, \$1.25. The story of Thomas Jefferson Gordon, boy and man. The son of a southern iron master, his mother's heart desire was that he should be a minister, but eventually he gives up the church, joins his father in business, and is able to save him in a time of keenest trial. The manner of his change of mind is told with the utmost skill, while his attitude towards the two girls in the story, the good and the bad, is cleverly sketched.

LYALL, DAVID — "The Heritage of the Free." The Copp, Clark Co., Toronto. Cloth, \$1.25. A story of the Disruption times in Scotland. With the simple directness of narrative which characterizes this well known and favorite writer, the struggle between Church and State which culminated in the establishment of the Free Church is clearly and forcibly presented. In the story of the Jardine family and their eviction from the manse, of Adam Howieson and his following in Kirkcubright, and of the Laird of Glencairn and his beautiful, true-hearted wife, we have an illustration of what was going on all over Scotland at a period when religious freedom hung in the balance.

MAC KINNON, A. G. — "Spiritually Fit. A Young Man's Equipment." Edinburgh: Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier. Cloth, 2s. 6d. We have only words of praise for this admirable book of counsel, advice and encouragement for the young man. To-day, to be physically fit, is considered a great necessity in life's battle. By means of a close analogy, Mr. MacKinnon shows how much more necessary it is to be spiritually fit. This fitness involves the whole structure of the spiritual life and is intimately connected with spiritual growth. How to attain to a measure of its perfection is the theme on which Mr. MacKinnon enlarges.

MEADE, L. T. — "Loveday." Toronto: The Copp, Clark Co. \$1.50. The interest in this pretty story arises out of an extraordinary will and a mistake on the part of a nurse whereby two noble lives are nearly sacrificed. The heroine courageously faces the situation and in the end right and justice triumph. Incidentally the ethics that should regulate the medical and nursing professions come in for a share of attention, a high standard being exacted.

OPPENHEIM, E. P. — "Mr. Wingrave, Millionaire." Toronto: The Copp, Clark Co. Cloth, \$1.50. Through the treacherous conduct of the woman in the case, Sir Wingrave Seton is convicted of man slaughter and sentenced to a long term in prison. When he at length is freed, his mind is so embittered against humanity that he determined to wreak vengeance on every person who comes into contact with him, as well as on the woman who wronged him. He goes to America and becomes immensely wealthy, but he is utterly unable to carry out his evil purpose because of a vein of humanity in him which causes him to counteract secretly every outward act of wickedness that he does.

McPHAIL, ANDREW — "The Vine of Simeon." Toronto: The Macmillan Co. \$1.50. Strong, virile, convincing, this book is not so much fiction as history in its most attractive form. Puritanism is presented as

it was in old England at the close of the Protectorate and as it was in New England when transplanted over-seas. Life and vigor inspire the scenes and characters which pass in rapid succession before the mind of the reader in London, on the high seas, in the new colonies and in the wilds of America. Like his own Captain Phineas Pratt, the brave puritan-pirate, the author himself seems to be "a man of infinite resource and invention," and like his hero he has not only a "nice perception of the use of words," but also a wide range of knowledge which enables him to discourse with equal ease of things pertaining to warfare, navigation, the healing art or dialectics. Romance is not lacking. Captain Nicholas Dexter, true knight and true lover, after many adventures wins his lady love after the manner of the times in which he lived. We predict a wide popularity for this admirable book.

POWELL, FRANCIS. — "The Prisoner of Ornith Farm." Toronto: McLeod & Allen. \$1.25. A tale of mystery and crime. Hope Carmichael, a beautiful young girl, is kidnapped and detained a prisoner at Ornith Farm, by Hollis Lannion, a gentleman by birth and culture but a criminal by profession. The young girl finally makes her escape, the mysteries of the establishment are laid bare and the nefarious practices of its owner brought to a close. Quite an unusual book both as to subject and treatment.

PRESTON, SIDNEY H. — "On Common Ground." Toronto: The Copp, Clark Co. Cloth, \$1.25. The scenes and characters of this very readable book, which is written in journal form, are rural. A bachelor a little past the youthful stage and inclined to mild, contemplative ways, retires to the country in the hope of finding Arcadia. After a time ennui assails him, followed by a longing for companionship, and a very pretty love story is evolved. The common ground is reached in the similar experiences of several pairs of lovers of various degrees. There is a touch of humor in many of the situations and the book is distinctly clever.

THORNE, GUY. — "First it was Ordained." Toronto: The Musson Book Co. Cloth, \$1.50. This is a novel with a distinct and outspoken purpose. It has been written to attempt to counteract the tendency in modern English society to escape the obligations of child-bearing. With its events transpiring in the year 1910, the author is able to paint a picture of an alarmingly decreasing population. To combat the evil, a society known as the Confraternity of the Holy Ghost is formed and it is with the work of this organization that the story is principally concerned. Among the characters there are many striking contrasts.

WARD, MRS. HUMPHRY. — "Fenwick's Career." Toronto: William Briggs. Cloth, \$1.25. In the creation of John Fenwick, artist with the stamp of genius, this distinguished writer has produced a character of a different type from any she has hitherto attempted. Other characters there are of much interest, also descriptions of social life in London and Paris, but all are subordinated to the main study, which is Fenwick himself with his divine gift struggling for expression. His career is in the main a struggle against adverse material conditions. Moral issues are involved through the desertion of his wife, which places him in a false position socially. A moral catastrophe is imminent, from which he is rescued by Madame de Pastourelles, between whom and himself there exists a