

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS—Continued.

be interesting to know if one in fifty or even one in a hundred of these "prime favorites," these "books of the month" will be read fifty years hence. The continued demand for "David Harum," however, arouses speculation as to whether that work is to escape the common graveyard of literary hopes. We are interested to learn that yet another edition of a thousand copies has just been issued by the Canadian publisher.

There are stories that are "readable," "pretty," "delightful," "absorbing," and so on up the gamut of adjectives, from simple endurance to rampant enthusiasm. There are others, rare comers, that are read quietly and deliberately, with subtle enjoyment that finds expression only in the word delicious. Such is J. P. Mowbray's "A Journey to Nature," just issued by Doubleday, Page & Co., of New York, and William Briggs, of Toronto. It may be called "the business man's novel," as it deals with the experiences—told by himself—of a young Wall street broker who, alarmed by premonitory symptoms of heart-trouble, yields to the advice of his doctor, and, taking his little son with him, buries himself in the country. The story thereafter concerns the health-seeker, young Charlie, their yellow dog Lilah, and Grielle, the daughter of a neighboring farmer, redolent of the aroma of lilacs, and who supplies the golden thread of romance that runs through the story. The Doctor, too, is a rare spirit, whose visits are like bursts of sunshine. The volume must at once give the author a place in the first rank of contemporary American writers. Besides its nice feeling for nature there is quiet humor, keen insight, and a sincere expression of what is vital and human that give it rare distinction. The papers which form the foundation of this charming story created an extraordinary amount of attention when published serially in The New York Evening Post.

Harrison Robertson's new novel: "The Inlander," is a dramatic story of love and jealousy, the scene of which is Louisville, Ky. The characters are strongly drawn, the action is brisk, the situations are full of intense and emotional interest. The book is a noteworthy successor to the author's "Red Blood and Blue."

"Souls at Passage." Mrs. Barr's new book, is a story of reincarnation, a theory, if not a belief the author is said to have always had much at heart. The novel has been long in her mind and has written itself. Mrs. Barr's stories have of late been more and more successful, and her greatly increased audiences are not likely to be in any way disappointed in this her latest literary venture.

A story whose place will be well up among the leaders in the strenuous race for popularity this year is "John Vytal," by William Farquhar Payson. The scene is laid in the ill-fated colony planted by Sir

Walter Raleigh on the Island of Roanoke, off the coast of Old Virginia. The mysterious disappearance of that colony has been an enigma to the historians. The author has a theory of his own that he puts forward in the story.

Other books to tempt that much-sought man, the "reader," are "The Eternal Quest," a strong novel by James Stewart, author of "The Minister of State"; "Understudies," by Mary E. Wilkins, author of "The Heart's Highway"; and "Martin Brook," by Morgan Bates.

THE COPP, CLARK CO.'S LIST.

Several notable works of fiction are promised by this publishing house, either immediately or in the near future. "Her Mountain Lover," by Humlin Garland, will be on the market after Easter. The story, which is fresh and diverting, relates the experiences of a young Colorado miner, "Jim," who goes to England to float a mining company. "Jim's" humor and style are thrown into picturesque contrast with English conventionality.

Max. Pemberton's usual vein of modern romance is well sustained in his "Pro Patria." A tunnel is being secretly dug under the English channel by French engineers preparatory to an invasion. The hero is a young English officer in love with the daughter of the Frenchman in charge of the work near Calais. That he is true to his country and wins his love at the same time goes without saying.

A new book of humor by Jerome K. Jerome will be welcomed. Its title is, "The Observations of Henry." "Henry" is a waiter, and his reflections extend over a series of short tales all connected together, and said to embody some of this writer's most refreshing fun. The volume will be embellished by five or six color-process illustrations.

In "The Devil's Plough," a new writer, Anna Farquhar, has produced a deeply entertaining historical romance. Twin brothers, alike in form and feature, the one a soldier in the service of France, the other a priest, furnish a rather unique situation. The soldier being murdered the priest is forced by circumstances to play a double part, to personate the missing man while sustaining his own place in life. In his military capacity he fights a duel and becomes attached to a lady whose husband is a prisoner in the Bastille. Finally, he has to choose which position he shall fill, and he decides in favor of a missionary career in Canada or New France.

Another new novel is "The Lone Star Rush," by Edmund Mitchell, a tale of gold-mining in West Australia. It is said to possess the Australian characteristics of dash and rapid incident.

By May 1, the Copp, Clark Co. expect to issue "The Helmet of Navarre," the romance by Bertha Runkle, which has been so deeply stirring readers of the Century Magazine. It keeps the reader breathless

with eager interest. The stirring period of the League in France, when Henry IV. was at the gates of Paris, provides the necessary highly colored background. Twelve full-page illustrations enrich the book.

All the above-mentioned novels, though produced in cloth at \$1.50 in the United States, will be placed on the Canadian market at \$1.25 cloth, and 75 cents paper.

The long promised novel, "The Crisis," by the author of "Richard Carvell," is expected to be out this month or next. The scene is laid in St. Louis during the Civil War. The book is in no sense a sequel to "Richard Carvell," yet, the heroine is Virginia Carvell, a great grand-daughter of Richard, and therefore, pleasantly recalls that excellent historical tale.

The publication of Holmes' "Life of Queen Victoria," has been postponed, but it is expected to be along soon. It will retail at \$2, in cloth only.

Another work which the publishers have on their list is the second of Zola's quartette of works: "Fruitfulness," "Work," "Truth," and "Justice." "Work," is of absorbing interest as a story, and deals with the struggle between capital and labor in France.

Several additional new novels are: "The Church of Humanity," by David Christie Murray; "The Baron's Sons," by Maurice Jokai; "Edward Barry," by Louis Becke; and two of the latest issues in Longman's Colonial Library, "Anne Mainwaring," by Lady Ridley, and "Ballast," by Myra Swan.

PUBLISHERS' SYNDICATE'S BOOKS.

The Publishers' Syndicate, Limited, Toronto, have announced several forthcoming books of more than usual interest. In one case the author is a young Canadian, Mr. F. Clifford Smith, who has already a name as a successful writer of short stories, and who has also published one successful novel. Another of the promised good things is a novel by Dr. Barry, whose "Arden Massiter" was so well received in Canada last year. A third work of much interest is by Hamilton Drummond, whose romantic tales have placed him high in the list of contemporary writers of fiction. These three publications may be counted among the coming successes of the present season.

Mr. Clifford Smith's story, "A Daughter of Patricians," is a clever tale of Teffer Canadian life, exciting in its events and remarkable in its applicability to current events. It is a story of a young and unknown musician who dares to fall in love with the only daughter of an aristocratic French family. Having no hope of gaining consent to their union, the young couple elope, and seek marriage at the hands of a priest of their faith, that of the Roman Catholic Church. On account of the circumstances, the ordinance is denied them, whereupon they succeed in being married by a Protestant clergyman. From this fact