

**MACLAREN AND BARRIE IN THE STATES.**

Book News.

THE literary event of the past month in New York was, of course, the arrival of those two distinguished visitors, Ian Maclaren and James M. Barrie. They supplied considerable matter for the interviewers during their brief stay, but it was noticeable that all the industrious plying of the nimble reporters failed to elicit any satisfactory information from either of these gentlemen concerning forthcoming books. "I have no new fiction," was all that Ian Maclaren would say on this point, though he spoke with great freedom on the subject of other authors and their books, expressing a special interest in Harold Frederic and his latest novel, "The Damnation of Theron Ware." Mr. Barrie was a little more communicative. When he was asked "Are you engaged on a book now?" he replied, "I've got the outlines for two, but haven't selected names for either of them. I don't know when they will be finished, for I don't crowd myself. I write when I feel like it. I may have an American woman in one of them. I met a woman coming over in the steamer who pleased me very much." Mr. Barrie places his new play, which is to be produced here shortly, above "The Professor's Love Story," in both literary and dramatic merit. "I began the play for Mr. Willard," he said, "and intended the strong part to be a man's part, but as I wrote, the story changed under my hands, and when the play was fairly well on it was a woman's play."

As Mr. Barrie says, he does not crowd himself with work. He writes slowly and carefully. "Sentimental Tommy," just published in book form, is the only story he has written since "The Little Minister." As a result, the book finds an eager and impatient public awaiting it. The first edition of 20,000 copies was more than half exhausted on the day of publication. It may be said in this connection, too, that his former books find a very ready market in new editions. In issuing the new subscription "Thistle Edition" of Mr. Barrie's works a special edition de luxe of 150 sets on Japan paper was prepared. These special sets were all sold before a copy was bound.

**PROF. ROBERTS' NEW BOOKS.**

The full title of Prof. Roberts' new book, this time a venture into historical romance, is "The Forge in the Forest; Being the Narrative of the Acadian Ranger, Jean de Mer, Seigneur de Briart; and how he crossed the Black Abbe; and of his Adventures in a Strange Fellowship." Messrs. Lamson, Wolfe & Co. are publishing in the United States.

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