

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

WHAT CANADIAN WRITERS ARE DOING.

It has been no secret for some time that Professor Goldwin Smith has been engaged upon and has practically completed a work on "The Political History of Great Britain," a companion book to a similar work dealing with the United States and published in 1893. But it will come as a surprise to many that he has written a book on "Shakespeare: The Man," which will shortly appear simultaneously in Canada, England, and the United States. It will be remembered that some time ago Mr. Goldwin Smith contributed a short paper on Shakespeare to The Canadian Magazine, in which he scouted the idea of the Baconian theory. From that paper we may infer that his attitude towards the great dramatist will be one of comprehensive sympathy in the forthcoming volume. Mr. Morang will publish the Canadian edition.

The London Times speaks very kindly of Professor C. W. Colby's recent work, "Selections from the Sources of English History," and declares that it has been compiled with great skill and learning, and can be honestly recommended. Speaking of it as appearing at the same time as two other historical works by foreign writers, The Times says: "A third book on England which comes to us from across the sea is not from a foreign source; it is from the professor of history in McGill University, Montreal. It is, therefore, all the more welcome, since, glad as we are to see English history and literature studied in the United States and on the continent of Europe, it is still more satisfactory to see them studied in our own colonies."

Dr. Bucke, of London, Ont., whose essay last year on Bacon as the author of Shakespeare's plays aroused some attention both here and in England, leading to some literary revival of the controversy, has compiled a little book, which will, no doubt, be sought for by the admirers of Walt Whitman. It consists of material drawn by Dr. Bucke from Whitman manuscripts, which came to him under the poet's will. The volume is well described as "Notes and Fragments," the product of Whitman's pen in the fifties and sixties. A good deal of

light is thrown upon the thoughts, the studies, and the aims which then filled him. In fact, the volume is likely to stand as something of a guide to his mental evolution.

The presence of Gilbert Parker in Canada has brought forth the statement that he is engaged upon another novel which will be ready next year. Mr. Parker is expected to be present at the first banquet of the Canadian Society of Authors, which will take place in the Temple Cafe, Toronto, on October 27.

In the Autumn announcements of United States publishers one does not find much reference to forthcoming books by Canadian



DR. JAMES ALGIE,
Author of "Houses of Glass."

authors. Two books, however, are announced to appear which will arouse interest in this country: A collection of short stories by Wm. McLennan, of Montreal, entitled "In old France and New," and a volume of verse, "Beyond the Hills of Dream," by William Wilfred Campbell, of Ottawa.

J. Macdonald Oxley, of Montreal, who has scored many a success during the past ten years with wholesome, entertaining, and brightly-written works of fiction for lads, has finished another. It is entitled, "Fife and Drum at Louisbourg," and is a stirring story describing the adventures of two boys who accompanied the Boston expedition

against Louisbourg. There will be a Canadian edition of it in time for the holiday season.

The industrious pen of J. Castell Hopkins is said to be engaged on a book relating to Canada, in a series of volumes dealing with phases of the nineteenth century, to be issued by his Canadian publishers, The Linscott Co. Mr. Hopkins was recently made a member of the British Society of Authors on the nomination of Hall Caine and Gilbert Parker.

Unusual interest must attach to Louis Frechette's new work which is avowedly written to familiarize English-speaking Canadians with the manners and people of French Canada. It will be embellished with a number of very fine sketches by Frederick Simpson Coburn, of Montreal, whose skill in illustrating Dr. Drummond's book, "The Habitant," was so notably successful. Mr. Frechette, it is interesting to know, wrote first in English and then translated it into French, and the English version, which Mr. Morang will publish shortly, is to come out first.

The death of George E. Fenety, the well-known journalist and publisher of the Maritime Provinces, at the advanced age of 87, recalls the fact that he wrote and published in 1867 a volume entitled "Political Notes and Observations"; in 1888, a pamphlet on "Imperial Federation," which he opposed, and, about two years ago, a work called "Random Recollections of Hon. Joseph Howe." Mr. Fenety had great industry and some literary ability and vigor, although his writings lacked literary style.

Canniff Haight, the author of "Country Life in Canada," intends publishing a general narrative of the Daniel Haight family, from its settlement in Canada to the present time. The Haight were United Empire Loyalists, who settled on the shore of the Bay of Quinte, and their annals must contain some valuable historical material. The edition will be limited to 100 copies.

E. B. Osburn, of Steep Creek, N.W.T., has recently been contributing some Klondyke stories to the English magazines. He has also produced some Northwest verses, which have found a place in The London Graphic.

Before his illness, an English correspondent says, Grant Allen was preparing an addition to his series of guide books. His idea is to describe "The European Tour"