

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

THE COPP
CLARK CO.'S
LIST.

"The Helmet of Navarre," by Bertha Runkle, and "The Crisis," by Winston Churchill (both Copp, Clark books), have broken the record in first editions. Each has turned out 100,000 copies, merely as a beginning. "Richard Carvel" has reached the height of 375,000 copies, which promises well for "The Crisis."

The Canadian Magazine, always a temperate critic, calls "The Helmet of Navarre" a really remarkable achievement, and adds: "A tale which glows with feeling on every page is brought to a happy conclusion. As an evidence of the dramatic art of its author, the latter portion is even more vivacious and enthralling than the earlier. In truth, it would be hard to name in current fiction a more delightful piece of work."

"Queen Victoria," the beautiful new book recently brought out in Canada by The Copp, Clark Co., has delighted the reviewers. Lawrence J. Burpee, the eminent critic, thought it worth a personal letter to the publishers. We have permission to extract the following:

At this time when the book market is flooded with a score or more of so-called Lives of Queen Victoria, it is a genuine relief to turn to the one biography of Her late Majesty which combines the two essential qualities of being authoritative and of high literary value. Dr. Holmes, the author, is the Librarian of Windsor Castle, and a man of wide culture and intellectual sympathies. His intimate knowledge of the Queen made him peculiarly adapted to be her biographer. The fact that Her late Majesty personally read and approved all but the final chapter of the book, which has been added to bring it up to the time of her death, lends a unique value to this life. It should be read by every man, woman and child in the Empire over which Queen Victoria so long and so happily reigned.

The book has a handsome cover of rich red, ornamented with gold. It retails at \$2.

The craze for the gruesome and gloomy in books is fortunately dying out, and the public are now clamoring for bright, humorous stories. Of this kind is "The Abandoned Farmer," which was recently described by a reader as having "Ten smiles on every page." This story is in a field by itself, and some critics have said there has been nothing like it since "Rudder Grange." It describes, in a deliciously humorous vein, the experiences of a young newspaperman, who lived with his wife, and a funny small boy, on a farm. The author, Sydney Herman Preston, is a Canadian, and he has

already made a reputation with "The Green Pigs."

"His Last Plunge," a good sporting yarn by Nat Gould, author of "The Double Event," is another of this company's recent publications. Mr. Gould is the greatest living master in this field of fiction, and his latest book is said to equal "The Double Event," the sales of which ran up into the hundred thousands.

"The Observations of Henry," Jerome's delightful book, is receiving great praise from the reviewers. Katharine Hale, literary editor of The Mail and Empire, writes:



Nell Gwynne.—Copp, Clark Co.

recently devoted a column to praise of it. Among other things, she said:

I read "The Observations of Henry," and quarrelled with the fate of the reviewer, who must touch and taste, but cannot handle long, the book of which he, or she, writes. Henry is too wise, and droll, and sensible, and funny, to be taken in one gully with silent speed. I gloated over Carrots and Kipper—in the first story—and I wished that I just had the impossible space to make large cuts here, and almost I wished that it were again the season of library lamps and open fires, so appropriate it would be—with that incomparable setting—to gather together a large, appreciative family, and read the whole thing through aloud.

The Montreal Star reviewed this book in two successive Saturday issues. Here is an extract: "He has the infinite humor that reveals the raciest manner of Mark Twain. The whole book is replete with what Shakespeare calls admirable fooling, and we do

not envy the men or women who refuse to laugh when Mr. Jerome shakes his cap and bells."

MORANG
& CO.'S LIST

For the Autumn book season Mr. Morang has had the good fortune to secure a triple attraction in works of fiction which it would be hard to surpass—the new novels of Hall Caine, Anthony Hope, and Rudyard Kipling. The publication of Mr. Caine's notable book is set down for August 2; Mr. Hope's "Tristram of Blent" is expected in September; Mr. Kipling's "Kim" will be ready in October.

The three books can hardly fail to create a notable impression. Mr. Hope's tale is now appearing in The Monthly Review and bids fair to rival all his recent novels. Of Kipling's "Kim"—which will be illustrated by his father—it may be said that its qualities have already attracted attention and that it will sell extensively all over the English-reading world.

As being first in point of date of appearance, a word is in order with reference to Hall Caine's "The Eternal City." The book has already challenged the attention of two continents owing to the Messrs. Pearson, of London—who hold the several rights—having refused to publish certain portions which they deem objectionable and improper. A sensational lawsuit is even said to be on the tapis. Is the book, then, at war with the standards of taste and words? Mr. Morang, the Canadian publisher, has met this point squarely in an interview with The Toronto Globe:

I do not think there is much in this charge (said Mr. Morang), I made the arrangement to bring out Mr. Caine's novel when I was in England last year, and I cannot suppose that there is anything in the book that is contrary to the principles of the highest morality. I am ready to take my stand on Hall Caine's previous record. Why, to begin with, he has a strain of the Puritan in him, but it is Puritanism of the old sort, not Puritanical prudence, of which there is far too much in these days. Mr. Caine's upbringing was among the Baptists, and there are marks of the influences that surrounded his youth, and of his intimate knowledge of the Bible, in all his works. A man of that sort does not rake in the gutters for the sake of doing it. Then, again, you see that his counsel, Mr. Augustine Birrell, strongly upholds him in his decision not to excise and rewrite. "The author of Obituary Dicta" is not only a man of sound common sense, but is quite in touch with what may be called the English Nonconformist conscience. When a man like that says a book is all right I am going to take his opinion in preference to that of the proprietors of a magazine, who must necessarily object to any plain treatment of subjects that are usually tabooed. Exactly the same trouble occurred with regard to Tolstoy's "Resurrection." Certain parts of that story were objected to by a New York magazine that had engaged to publish it. Yet we have published that work in its entirety here, and there has been no outcry about it.

"The Eternal City" having already