

BOOK AND LITERARY NOTES.

Marion Crawford's new novel is to bear the title of "Laura Arden."

Harper & Brothers have at last decided to place their periodicals in limited numbers "on sale," with the privilege to the dealers of returning unsold copies.

D. Van Nostrand & Co., publishers and importers of scientific, military and naval books, New York, are issuing a new edition of their complete catalogue of scientific books. They have also nearly ready "The Standard Electrical Dictionary," by T. O'Connor Sloane.

A few of our contemporaries seem to misinformed as to the plans of the D. Lothrop Company, when they report some contemplated changes, owing to the death of Mr. D. Lothrop, in its management desire to say that all such reports are entirely without foundation. There are no important changes and everything is to go on as usual, carrying out the future plans for the house as laid down by Mr. D. Lothrop.

Hart & Riddell have in press a work entitled *The Paradise of the Pacific or Tales of Travel*, by H. Spencer Howell, of Galt. This gentleman has travelled a great deal, and the descriptions are chiefly the Hawaiian Islands. The work will be demioctavo, of about 300 pages, and will contain twenty half-tone illustrations. It will no doubt be one of the finest book productions ever issued in Canada, and the edition is to be limited.

An interesting volume by Julian Ralph, *On Canada's Frontier*, will soon be issued from the press of Harper & Brothers. The recent rapid development of the vast western portion of the Dominion, and the increased attention which is being directed to that region will give to this work a special value and timeliness. Mr. Ralph's information regarding the present condition and remarkable resources of the great Northwest is derived at first hand and from personal observation, while his narrative of experiences with the Indian tribes and his sketches of hunting adventures in the Canadian forests have all the interest of romance.

The Intercolonial Railway has issued an exceedingly well printed and superbly illustrated brochure, entitled "An Intercolonial Outing." It contains many half-tone photo engravings of scenes along the lower St. Lawrence, and the pen description of these charming views are in keeping. The extensive salmon fishing grounds along the line of the railway are all fully described, as is the quaint and curious country. The lover of the quiet in nature can always find a peaceful haven, and yet have the privilege of the daily mail and telegraph. To the world-weary tourist, who has been used to the crush and confusion of the conventional summer resort, the country reached by the Intercolonial is a paradise. And the fishing is famous the world over. By all means send for "An Intercolonial Outing," and learn of a land where civilization has not marred the beauty of nature.

The Petersons of Philadelphia are issuing a series of exceedingly good stories in cheap but attractive form,

printed on good paper, from large, clear type. For 25 cents the reader can get the best works of Mrs. Emma D. E. N. Southworth, Emilie Zola, Caroline Lee Hentz, Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett, Lady Gladys Hamilton, Captain Hawley Smart, Mrs. Ann S. Stephens, Henry Greville, John Habberton, George Sand, Lady Maude Rutledge, and many others occupying an equally exalted high rank in literature, hitherto issued at one dollar and fifty cents each. They now number one hundred volumes and a complete list of them will be sent to any address, and when not to be had of your bookseller, copies will be sent by mail, on receipt of retail price by the publishers, T. B. Peterson & Bros., Philadelphia, Pa.

Macmillan & Co. will speedily issue a new and carefully revised edition of Bryce's "American Commonwealth," which will include the many important changes which have occurred in matters affecting American politics since the first issue of the work, which, it scarcely need be said, is one of the greatest books of its kind ever published. The new edition will be copyrighted in America under the International Copyright law. "Calmire," recently issued by this firm, is a novel which has attracted a good deal of attention. Like "Robert Elsmere," it discusses great problems of life and religion with great earnestness and acumen. The authorship is anonymous, but the book has made enough reputation to warrant the writer in making his name known to the public. In actual length the book is considerably less than "Robert Elsmere," though the wide margins and large type make it quite bulky and deceive people as to its length. This, then, should not deter intending purchasers.

WALL PAPER.

Pressed papers have found favor during the past season. These papers are all hand made and range in prices from one dollar a roll upwards. The patterns are decorated with plain and embossed gilt, and present a handsome appearance with an effect which no flat pattern, however beautiful, can produce. As soon as these decrease in price there will be undoubtedly an increased demand for such high class papers. In one of the best retail stores in Toronto are seen some beautiful papers of this description. The English embossed are good, but all are over-topped by a Japanese paper which is a beauty; the patterns are large and fantastic, although not peculiarly Japanese. The price of this paper retail is \$25 per twelve square yards, which comprises a roll.

Canadians have not yet manufactured mica patterns. Last season the Americans improved their white and brown blanks by touching up the patterns with a mica finish. This adds greatly to their appearance and relieves the monotony of a plain pattern, thus forming what is called a glimmer paper. The real mica ground where the blank is micaed before printing forms a large line of American papers, and in both browns and whites is found to be a good selling class of papers.

A formal consolidation of large wall paper manufacturers in the United States practically took place on Tuesday, August 2nd, when the property of the several firms and corporations that

have agreed to join the combination was turned over to the National Wall Paper Company that was organized for that purpose. Representatives of the company declined to say what firms or companies had been bought or absorbed by the new company. But at least nineteen mills have been bought outright by this new company. The capital is \$14,000,000 in common stock and \$6,000,000 in debenture stock. Thus about 60 per cent. of the wall paper manufacturing business of the United States is formed into a huge trust. Prices are not likely to rise very suddenly—perhaps not at all, for the present.

THE DRUMMER.

Do you ever know what becomes of a drummer? Not that you care, but have you ever seen a dead drummer? I don't believe drummers die. I believe they simply talk themselves into gas.—"Gas thou art, to gas returnest," was written for the drummer. I have met one or two men who have been drummers, but they don't talk much about it. When a drummer gets tired of talking, he just disappears. I do not see how this country survives the existence of drummers. You go into a small country place; you step into the hotel; you find in the office sixteen coats hanging on the wall and sixteen valises in a row on the floor, and sixteen men sitting with their thirty-two feet up on the stove telling sixteen lies about their business and their adventures all at one time. You can't get what you want in that town. The drummers have made the storekeepers buy what they have to sell, and you've got to take it or go without. It seems almost impossible to believe that the drummer should ever be able to disguise his identity. He is, as a rule, aggressive and runs things.

If you see a man come into the office of a hotel and step up timidly to the counter and ask the clerk if there are any letters for him, please, you may know that he's an humble private citizen and a plain guest. If you see a fellow hang open the door, stride in and leave it open behind him, go and hang his coat on a peg and jam his valise on the floor, walk behind the counter, take out all the letters and read the addresses from every box, open the drawer and look in, then you'll know it's a drummer—good for one night's lodging and several drinks. He generally lets everybody know that he's sold a lot of stuff, and talks very loud about the fun he has sometimes. But they told me of one drummer who called himself a count, and wore a long fur-lined ulster and an imposing, foreign-looking mustache. He came and stayed a long time. He was the rage; the girls fell in love with him; the mammas admired him; he was on the eve of getting engaged to a haughty San Francisco belle, when a lady walked into a drug store one day and found him with a lot of samples of soap trying to stick the proprietor with his stock. That let him out and he disappeared. But the professor disowned him, for, as a rule, the drummer is a straightforward, open, honest and enthusiastic nuisance.—Geyer's Stationer.

Mr. Richard Brown is at present doing Europe, and reports some startling lines for the fall trade.