

illustrated review of English literature from the earliest times right down to the twentieth century.

...

William Heinemann, 21 Bedford street, London, W.C., has begun the publication of a series of Favorite Classics, in sixpenny volumes. About sixteen of the plays of Shakespeare have already appeared and the remainder will appear at brief intervals. Then will follow the works of other authors of repute.

...

George Bell & Sons, London, are announcing a new series of biographies, "The Miniature Series of Great Writers," in which they have already issued the lives of Coleridge, Chaucer, Shakespeare, and DeQuincey. The series is uniform with this firm's "Miniature Series of Painters," and sells at one and two shillings, according to binding.

SIR GEORGE NEWNES IN CANADA.

AN elderly gentleman of medium height and stout build, with hair and beard turning grey, and with square-cut pleasant face, genial in speech and manner and leisurely in action. That, in a few words, is Sir George Newnes, Bart., probably the most renowned and certainly the most popular of English publishers.

Sir George is at present on a visit to Canada, and during his stay in Toronto he favored Bookseller and Stationer with a brief interview. Asked about his publishing ventures, Sir George said:

"My first publication was Tit Bits, which I started in Manchester in 1881. Then, I was associated with Mr. W. T. Stead in the publication of the first issues of the Review of Reviews. That was the quickest-produced

magazine ever known. Stead had just left the Pall Mall, and he offered me the charge of three schemes of his. I accepted the Review of Reviews and told him I would have it out in a month if he accepted my terms. He did so, and the first number was got out inside a month. At once it became a success, for Mr. Stead did his work well as an editor.

"Then I commenced the Strand. I had always intended to have a magazine with a picture on every page. At that time American magazines had large circulations in England. When the Strand came on the scene it soon gained a large circulation in England, and it is largely read in America and Canada to-day."

"What about a Canadian edition of the Strand?"

"I can't say," replied Sir George. "My confidence in the future of Canada is so great that one never knows what will happen. My opinion is that Canada is going ahead faster than any other country in the world."

Sir George was asked if he thought a Canadian ten cent magazine was possible.

"I don't see why Canada shouldn't have such a magazine. A magazine isn't a newspaper and doesn't require separate editors for two countries. I don't see why a magazine edited in Canada would not be as acceptable as one edited in London. However, there hardly seems to me to be a sufficient population to support one. Then, too, in order to carry the advertisements, you would require a larger circulation than you would be likely to get. Still I won't dogmatize."

"What is your opinion of the Canadian newspaper press?" was asked.

"I have the highest opinion of it," replied Sir George, briefly.

Asked about Canada's future prospects as a producer of paper, Sir George stated, "I think undoubtedly it will become the chief source of supply of the British market."

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