

## CANADIAN BOOKS AND WRITERS.

PROF. GOLDWIN SMITH has completed his "Political History of England," and is touching it up here and there before handing it to his publishers, the Macmillan Co. His "Guesses at the Riddles of Existence" has called forth many criticisms. In reply he has written an essay, separately issued by the Macmillan Co. Although in his seventy-sixth year, Prof. Goldwin Smith is hale and hearty, and finds time, in addition to much literary activity, to contribute largely to *The Weekly Sun*, of Toronto.

Canadian journalists seem to be rather prominent contributors to *The Canadian Magazine*. James Hannay, of *The St. John Telegraph*, recently wrote of the New Brunswick Premiers, and the announcement is made that W. L. Cotton, of *The Charlottetown Examiner*, John S. Willison, of *The Toronto Globe*, and Nicholas Flood Davin, of *The Regina Leader*, will contribute articles before the year closes. This is one of the proofs that Canadian journalists are broad-minded and cultured.

W. M. MacVicar, M.A., headmaster of Annapolis, N.S., County Academy, has published, through the Copp, Clark Co., Toronto, a short history of Annapolis Royal, with Port Royal of the French, from its settlement in 1604 to the withdrawal of the British troops in 1854. The work is bound in paper, and contains about 125 pages. There is a map of Fort Anne (built 1643), and a portrait of Samuel Champlain, the first European to ascend the Annapolis River (June 17, 1604.) Mr. MacVicar has given the history of the county very careful study and has succeeded in producing in a concise and really fascinating style an excellent work.

Messrs. L. C. Page & Co., of Boston, announce for immediate publication a new edition of "Golden Dog" (*Le Chien d'Or*), by Wm. Kirby, F.R.S.C. This splendid romance of Quebec has been out of print for a good many years, and the publishers, in making arrangements with Mr. Kirby for an authorized edition, are undoubtedly rendering a service to the many admirers of his book. It may be of interest to state that a previous American edition was published entirely without the consent or approval of the author, who reaped nothing from its very large sale. The new edition is from a fine new set of plates, is printed

on fine paper and is illustrated with twelve full-page illustrations from original drawings and from photographs from scenes in and about Quebec.

Miss Blanche MacDonnell, of Montreal, a young lady whose contributions to the periodicals and daily press have already won her some reputation, has written a novel embodying scenes in the early French period of Canadian history. The few who



MR. LYMAN CLIFFORD SMITH

The Canadian poet; author of "Mabel Gray and Other Poems."

Mr. Lyman Clifford Smith, of Montreal, whose portrait is given above, is a Canadian writer of verse of great promise. His volume, "Mabel Gray and Other Poems," has been received with cordiality by the reading public and by the critics. A new edition of it has just been issued by William Briggs Toronto, in paper covers, for supplementary reading by students in the schools. The new edition, which is sold to the reader at 20c., makes a pretty book for the pocket. It contains a new poem by the author, not appearing in the former edition, and entitled "Our City Cousin." This is a charming lay of the country sights and sounds that strike a girl who

Leaves the city dust and heat  
To walk among our meadows sweet.

and is a very true and lifelike picture of Canadian rural scenery. A slight story runs through the poem.

have seen it speak in warm terms of its style and its treatment of an interesting subject.

As an example of the circulation which is obtained for Canadian books of merit when canvassing is relied upon, it is of interest to know that the books written by Mr. J. Castell Hopkins, of Toronto, have secured nearly thirty thousand readers in this country. This author's "Life of Sir John Thompson" obtained a circulation of 11,000; the "Life of Gladstone," 4,000;

the "Sword of Islam," his work on Armenia, 6,000, and the "Life of the Queen," 8,000. These were not sold through booksellers, but by publishers' agents, although it is conceivable that the regular booksellers could, with effort, make books of this class profitable to themselves.

The poems of Jean Blewett are to be collected and published in book form shortly by Mr. George Morang, Toronto. This lady's contributions, both in verse and prose, to *The Canadian Magazine*, *The Toronto Globe*, etc., are equally creditable to her industry and talent.

Rev. Dr. Workman, whose "Old Testament Vindicated" created such remarkable interest this year, is engaged on a work to be entitled "The Servant of Jehovah." The work above named, with his first volume on "The Text of Jeremiah" have given the author distinguished standing among the Biblical writers of the day.

A new volume of stories for boys by Mr. E. W. Thomson, "Petherick's Peril and other Stories of Adventure" will be published in October by Wm. Briggs.

## SELLING BOOKS BY POST.

A French trade review has solved the problem of the superiority of the German book trade over that of other countries. The secret lies, it says, in the co-operation of the postal service. It is the custom in Germany for booksellers to circulate among the public postal cards of special design, which, being inscribed with the name and address of a would-be purchaser, and with the title of a work, may be mailed for the modest sum of about half a cent. The bookseller, upon receipt of this card, consigns the book required to the postal authorities, who, for a very small amount, deliver the book, receive its price from the purchaser, and forward the money to the bookseller. It is said that for the sum of about 2½c. a large volume may be sent from one end of Germany to the other.

Thomas Y. Crowell & Co. have received from England a package of valuable autograph letters written to Dean Farrar by Tennyson, Browning, Lowell, Holmes, Dean Stanley and others. These will be reproduced in fac-simile and published in Dean Farrar's forthcoming book, "Men I Have Known," which will be ready in October.