



From the Publishers

MRS. ARTHUR MURPHY (Emily Ferguson) was born at Cookstown, Ontario, and is the daughter of the late Isaac Ferguson and niece of the late T. R. Ferguson, M.P., who represented Simcoe for many years in the Dominion Parliament.

She was educated at Bishop Strachan School, Toronto, and was married at the age of nineteen to Rev. Arthur Murphy, an Anglican clergyman. After several years of work in different parishes in Western Ontario, Mr. Murphy went abroad accompanied by Mrs. Murphy. It was at this time that the "Janey Canuck Abroad" sketches appeared and received favorable comment for their vivacity of style, their vigorous and pungent comment, their entertaining humor; "nothing escaped her pen from German cooking to English ritualism." This was followed, on Mrs. Murphy's return to Canada, by a series on "Janey Canuck at Home," giving a description of a three-months' trip in the West.

The family now settled in Manitoba, Mr. Murphy engaging in timbering and agricultural enterprises, assisted by Mrs. Murphy, who also kept up her literary work, contributing to various magazines and continuing her duties as review editor of the *Winnipeg Telegram*.

From Manitoba they removed to Edmonton, where Mr. Murphy is interested in coal-mining but is also active in church work. Mrs. Murphy is a prominent figure in the social activities of the Alberta capital, being president of the Hospital Aid and vice-president of the Edmonton Women's Curling Club. She is fond of outdoor sports, especially of horse-back riding. She favors the unconventional western style of riding, as a matter of caution and common sense, for, as she says, "It is not pleasant, or for that matter safe, for a woman to be hooked to the side of a horse as if she were a bundle of clothes on a peg."

Mrs. Murphy, says D. G. F. in the *World*, puts force and enthusiasm into anything she undertakes and does not hesitate to make herself both heard and felt. She is a witty and entertaining talker, and is well informed upon the questions of the day. She has unbounded faith in the future of the West.

A new book from her pen, "Janey Canuck in the West," giving a series of sketches of the life and work of the pioneer of the Canadian West, is now in the course of publication and will be brought out at an early date by Cassell & Company.

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THE name of William T. Allison is familiar to the readers of Canadian publications, for Mr. Allison has devoted himself to literary production with a result in appreciation which should lead him to more sustained effort. His essays and verse were the natural outgrowth of the literary temperament. The publication of "The Amber Army and Other Poems" showed the desire of the writer to express in more permanent form the fancies and reflections to which the magazine, in spite of its modern popularity, gives comparatively fleeting utterance.

The curious fascination which autumn exerts over the fancy of the Canadian poet has never been explained—but it is a noticeable circumstance. In England and in France, the springtime is the season when the poet's fancy, whether he be

young man or old, expresses itself in delicate and airy rhyme. However, when it comes to the poets of this young and hopeful land, it is remarkable how they, one and all, turn to the season of falling leaves and write odes to the departing year. "The Amber Army," the first number of this volume, describes the days when

"Red-coated, amber, grey,
The falling leaves to-day
Drop in dead drifts within the wood,
As soldiers should."

Whatever else may be considered commercial in Toronto, her university building is regarded with a pride in its architectural beauty which deepens to a passionate admiration. A host of students will respond to "A Summer's Night on the University Lawn" with memories that are a part of those four years of student dreams and aspirations.

"Infinite calm of the summer night,
Warm stars in a measureless distance of space,
Low voice of the wind in the trees
and the towers,
Silence and gloom round the stately
old place.

"Cold, in a splendor of silence, grey,
Half-hidden in ivy the dense Norman pile,
Wide home of the arts and the
wisdom of men,
Sleeps in her classic repose for the
while."

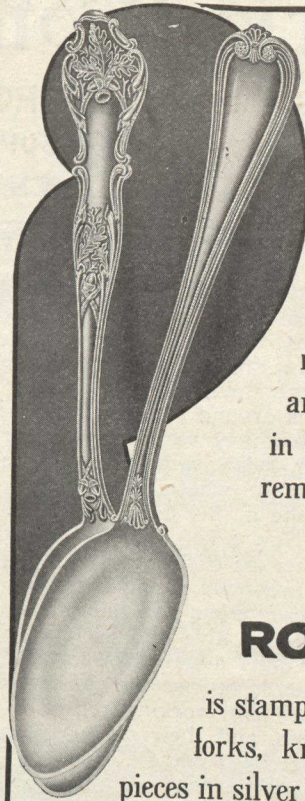
The slender volume, which Mr. Allison has sent forth as a contribution to Canadian literature, is characterized by a sympathy and a delicacy which are indicative of the true poet. Among the poems, none is more appealing to the reader than the sonnet, "The Canadian Pine."

This book of poems, daintily bound in green and white, is published by William Briggs, Toronto.

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MORE than twenty years ago, a book review in Mr. Goldwin Smith's *The Week* referred to Mr. Marion Crawford's new novel and made mention that the novelist in question was a most prolific writer. Year after year, since then, showed at least one new Crawford novel, until one expected it as much as the flowers of May. His best-known novels are probably the fourfold list, beginning with "Sant Ilario." To many his finest work is not one of fiction at all, but that wonderful glimpse of the Eternal City in *Ave Roma Immortalis*. The death of Mr. Crawford has been followed by what is described as "the latest Crawford book," entitled "The Undesirable Governess."

Anything less like the ordinary Crawford novel, full of Roman politics and lightened by the smiles of alluring women, than this story of English home life it would be difficult to imagine. Lady Jane Follitt is exceedingly anxious that an unattractive woman should be secured as governess for her small girls, since Lady Jane's masculine relatives are decidedly susceptible to the charms of a pretty governess. An advertisement is answered by a young person of the desired ugliness, who proves, however, to be a pretty girl and who accomplishes as much destruction as is usually attributed to the attractive damsel. The book is a playful and domestic narrative, which may well afford an hour's amusement. Toronto: The Macmillan Company of Canada.



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