

### New Books Received.

#### "The Cavalier"\*

I MUST confess to feeling a little disappointed in Mr George W. Cable's new book "The Cavalier." It contains few of the strong features that made his "Dr. Sevier" famous, little of its vivid character drawing—and none of its depth.

It certainly possesses merits of its own, nevertheless. It is not dull, the story moves with a rush from start to finish, and is as rich in adventurous incident as may be expected in a tale of the hottest period of the civil war. The interest centres round Ned Ferry, the dashing commander of Ferry's scouts, Charlotte Oliver, the war correspondent and spy, and Richard Thorndyke Smith, who tells the tale.

There is a very satisfactory villain—whose career closes in a manner almost melodramatic, and abundance of fighting and love-making, both of a vigorous sort, keep the characters busy—and the reader absorbed.

Well-executed illustrations by Howard Chandler Christy and excellent press work by the publishers give the book a most attractive appearance.—G.

#### "The Right of Way"\*

THAT Canada may count among her sons, an artist possessing the talent revealed in this powerful new book of Gilbert Parker's, "The Right of Way" should be a matter of pride to us all. Mr Parker's work has always been brilliant—and in this last book he has not only done his own finest piece of writing, but has, I think, produced about the strongest novel published during the last three or four years.

It would be hardly fair to the prospective reader, to give a resume of the tale—even had I space so to do: suffice it to say that it is very largely a powerful analysis and description of the character development of the hero—Charley Steele—in his many roles of lawyer, well dressed fop, "man about town" and last and strongest, as assistant to the tailor of a little village on the Chaudiere.

In many ways this caustically insolent, brilliant and seemingly heartless individual is one of the most interesting characters of recent fiction.

The story is in the main both bright and convincing, although it might be urged that one or two of the literary devices Mr. Parker employs are scarcely worthy of so great an artist.

The habitants of the little Quebec village, the sweet and beautiful Rosalie Evanturel, the charming cure, the quaint old seigneur,—and all the others are sketched with the same vivid deftness that has distinguished "Pierre and his People."

The book contains one of the most powerful death scenes described by any recent writer—one indeed that will be discussed and upon which there will be many differences of opinion.

Altogether it is no more than fair to say that had Mr. Parker written nothing else this book would suffice to give him a position among the first writers of his time.—G.

#### "Circumstance,"\*

THIS is a book by Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, but the high expectations with which one begins the story are more than likely to be disappointed. In many particulars the tale reveals the force of this re-

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