

The Copp, Clark Co. have in press, and will issue shortly, a little volume entitled *Canadian Historical Stories*, edited by F. J. Marquis, B.A., and based upon "Stories of New France," by Miss Machar and Mr. Marquis.

The recent changes in the regulations of the Education Department will doubtless cause greater attention to be given to Canadian History in our schools, and teachers will be glad to avail themselves of this and similar books in connection with their history classes.

(1) Shakespeare. *Othello*. Edited by K. Deighton. (2) *Needlework, Knitting, Cutting-out*. Elizabeth Rosevear. (From Messrs. MacMillan & Co., London, through the Copp Clark Co., Toronto). We are glad to see *Othello* added to the excellent English Classics Series. The Editor's Introduction deals ably with questions relating to the date, composition and contents of the play, and the notes explain many difficulties, rather too many perhaps, e.g. "all guiltless, wholly guiltless."

As for the second book, we lay it down with a feeling of respectful admiration for the authoress. We feel sure that it is very complete, as it contains all that we have ever heard of connected with the subject, and much more. It is beautifully executed, the illustrations being perfect, and it is clear and practical to the last degree.

Messrs. MacMillan & Co. have just issued parts 19 and 20 of the "Short History of the English People." (Illustrated Edition.) The last illustration is a fine engraving of the picture of Henry VIII, by Holbein, at Berkeley Castle.

A new music reader comes to us from the press of Messrs. Silver, Burdett & Co., *The Cecilian Series of Study and Song*. Common School Course. (By John W. Tufts). It is intended for those schools where some instruction in music is given, but where an extended series of music-books would be out of place. It is a suitable and attractive book.

*School Needlework* is the title of an illustrated hand-book by Miss Hapgood, the teacher of Sewing in the Boston Public Schools. It is an excellent manual, simple and complete, and will help to prevent sewing becoming one of the lost Arts. Ginn & Co., Boston.

*The Real Thing and Other Tales* is the name of a new volume in MacMillan's popular Colonial Library. It contains five short stories by Henry James.

Mr. George E. Merkley publishes, under the title of *Canadian Melodies and Poems*, (Toronto: Hart and Riddell) a number of poems written at different times, chiefly on patriotic subjects. The author truly remarks in his preface that the history of Canada has a poetic background, and that the lovely lakes and majestic forests of our native land, as well as the heroic struggles of our ancestors for the flag, are fit themes for poetic inspiration and minstrel reverie. We are always glad to see a Canadian book and Mr. Merkley's verse possess considerable merit.

The third volume of the *History of English Literature*, which adds another to the many books that have made the name of MacMillan a household word, has now appeared, and is perhaps the best yet issued. It is the first of the Series: *The History of Early English Literature*, (by Stopford A. Brooke), and it is really the History of English Poetry from its beginning to the accession of King Alfred. We need hardly remind our readers of the great reputation of the author, or say that this is a very important book and interesting from beginning to end. These, for instance, are a few lines from the preface: "That poetry is certainly not of a very fine quality, but it is frequently remarkable. It has its own special qualities and with the exception, perhaps, of a few Welsh and Irish poems, it is the only vernacular poetry in Europe, outside of the classic tongues, which belongs to so early a time as the seventh and eighth centuries. The Welsh and Irish poems are few, problematical, and their range