

## BOOKS AND PERIODICALS—Continued.

feature in popular fiction. It will greatly help sales.

**NEW MILITARY BOOK.**—Lieut. Winston Spencer Churchill, M.P.'s last military book "From London to Ladysmith via Pretoria" was very popular in Canada, and his new book, "Ian Hamilton's March" is a series of letters reprinted from The Morning Post, with a number previously unpublished, and the diary of an officer formerly prisoner of war at Pretoria. This diary promises some interesting revelations. The book contains a portrait of General Hamilton, also colored maps and plans of battles.

**THE HOUSE OF EGREMONT.**—The Copp, Clark Co. have also just issued this new novel by Miss Molly Seawell. It is a romance of the 17th century, dealing with the friends of the exiled Stuarts, and is full of adventure. It is a period to which Miss Seawell has given special study, and which always exerts a great fascination. The book is a long story and contains good work.

**A BOOK ON CHINA.**—A timely production is "The Chinese Problem," by Chester Holcombe, who lived for years in Peking, connected with the United States Legation, who knows the Chinese language, and has written another book on China. The present work goes into the present characteristics of Chinese national life, and fully expounds the secret societies which are the active force in the present uprising. It is an informing and practical book.

**G. N. MORANG & A WOMAN TENDERFOOT—CO.'S NEW LIST.** By Grace Gallatin Seton-Thompson, will, without

doubt, be one of the most active sellers of this season. Mr. Ernest Seton-Thompson, who has taken the public by storm with his "Wild Animals I Have Known," "The Biography of a Grizzly," etc., has the good fortune to possess a wife who is an ideal partner for all his triumphs. The hands of the pair are visible in "A Woman Tenderfoot," for, while the wife writes bewitchingly, the husband draws in the most masterly and entertaining way. They have also summoned three other very clever artists, namely, E. M. Nashe, S. N. Abbott, G. Dift. The volume contains no fewer than 150 illustrations, which are all worthy of inspection by the most demanding of critics. Good type, fanciful page headings, wide margins, decorated with sketches that illustrate the letter press, are among the charms of this remarkably taking work. There are seven full page drawings, each of which is a notable work of art. It is one of the choicest \$2 books of the season, and we understand that the advance orders have been large.

**COMMITTED TO HIS CHARGE** makes its appearance in cloth at \$1, bearing as a side decoration a portrait of Dulcissima Sweeting, who may be regarded as the heroine of the story. The book is well printed and put out of hand, and it is a bright and attractive story of Canadian practical life. The dialogue is witty, the character drawing is good, and the Misses Lizars, who have already shown their quality in "The Days of the Canada Company" and "The Humors of '37," here display a keen insight into the human nature that circles about a Canadian county town. The book is published in England by Greening & Co., and is having a good sale.

**MISS BRADDON'S NOVEL.**—The binding of the paper edition of "The Infidel" strikes us as something entirely novel in the output of fiction. It is in sharp contrast to the highly-decorated covers now in vogue. It is, in short, distinctive and high class, and, lying on the counter with other novels, will at once challenge a book-buyer's attention. The binding of the cloth edition is also equally attractive, so that on the outside the appearance of the work gives the author a good introduction to the Canadian market. On reading the book we are pleasantly surprised, and rise from its perusal feeling a great respect for Miss Braddon's powers as an historical romance writer. She has certainly collected her material with the greatest industry and used them with masterly skill. Readers must put aside preconceived ideas of a sensationalism and melodrama, though such were justified by her earlier novels. They may, however, remember that Miss Braddon always wrote good English; that she was admired by Lord Beaconsfield as among the few great women writers of the century, and that she not only in her first attempts "captured the crowd," but had a respectable following of the more discriminating. The fact, no doubt, is that Miss Braddon knew what she was doing, and for years wrote novels with the direct intention of obtaining for them the largest possible circulation. In "The Infidel" there is no diminution of interest, but there is perhaps a more considerable exercise of powers which she did not previously display. It is the strangest thing in the world to find the author of "Lady Audley's Secret" touching the deeper problems of the soul, but she does so in the most interesting way. We predict that when "The Infidel" becomes known it will have a very large sale and be remembered in future years when "Lady Audley's Secret" and "Aurora Floyd" are only misty abstractions.

IN THE LANE THAT HAD NO TURNING Gilbert Parker comes before the public with a collection of short stories that have a con-

necting thread, and which display his complete and comprehensive acquaintance with life in the Province of Quebec. The manners customs, dialect, are all at his fingers' ends, and he deals with the seigneur, the peasant and the priest in a way both masterly and entertaining. There are five or six other stories that surpass anything that has hitherto been produced under these circumstances that are fully equal to anything that has come from his pen. While an atmosphere of romance envelops the book, it is very artistic in its use of the abundant materials it commands. There are in this volume 20 stories, and six shorter ones to which Dr. Parker appends the title "Parables of Provinces." As rounding up the series of novels that he has given us relating to Quebec, this volume will be welcomed by every admirer, especially as it is understood that the author announces this is his last effort in that direction. If, however, he finds any time to spare from the Parliamentary duties he has assumed it will be devoted to another department of life. The book is having a very extensive sale throughout Canada.

**SOLDIERING IN CANADA.**—Lieut.-Col. George T. Denison's "Soldiering in Canada" is being mentioned with much favor by the English reviewers, who thus corroborate the judgment already passed on this work by the Canadian press. It is steadily making its way, and has afforded many booksellers the opportunity of exploiting the large market that exists in Canada among military men. While it is intrinsically interesting to the general reader, it, of course, appeals to those interested in our militia, and, as there about 60,000 gallant men in the Dominion who either are or have been connected with that organization, booksellers should have no difficulty in placing a few score or hundreds of this

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