

BOOKS OF THE MONTH

ALEXANDER, GRACE—"Judith." Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Co. Cloth, \$1.50. The love story of a young and beautiful maiden of Camden, on the Ohio, and a Methodist preacher from New England. The tragic element centres round Judith's betrothal to a playmate of her childhood's days, which causes agony to her and a puritan's remorse to her parson-lover. Several passages in the story are told with uncommon strength. As would naturally be inferred, the ending is made conventional by the death of the third character.

BAILLIE SAUNDERS, MARGARET—"Saints in Society." Toronto: The Copp, Clark Co., Limited. Cloth, \$1.25. Mark Hading, the hero of this book, is a strong portrayal of a man risen from the ranks to high social position. As a labor leader he starts out with high aims, but his over-mastering ambition and self-sufficiency ultimately prove his ruin. Even more interesting as a character study is his young wife, Clo Hading. Less gifted, but with purer motives, she attains to a higher degree of excellence, and remains uncontaminated by the follies of the fashionable world in which her husband's success has placed her.

GARDENHIRE, SAMUEL M.—"The Long Arm." Toronto: The Poole Publishing Co. Cloth, \$1.25. An American Sherlock Holmes, by name Le Droit Connors, occupies the centre of the stage in this volume of short stories. He is very much like Sherlock, possibly a trifle more rapid in his deductions, and his exploits are chronicled by a friend who parallels Dr. Watson. The stories are all absorbing, some like the first "A Brother of the Heart," rather extravagant and others like "The Adventure of the Counterfeiters," quite realistic. There are eight stories in all.

GLASGOW, ELLEN—"The Wheel of Life." Toronto: The Musson Book Co. Cloth, \$1.50. An intense and thrilling story. In Laura Wilde the author has laid bare with wonderful insight the workings of a beautiful human soul in its struggles upward towards light and freedom through the entanglements of the emotions and the poetic temperament. She finds both at last in self-renunciation and conformity to the Divine Will. The other characters are well sustained and interesting in the parts they play, but the absorbing interest of the book centres in the heroine.

HOLMES, GORDON—"The Aencliffe Puzzle." Toronto: McLeod & Allen. Cloth, \$1.25; paper, 75c. A pleasing story with a good plot and a well sustained mystery, in which a British lawyer and a Scotland Yard detective are nearly baffled until the situation is relieved by a clever American amateur. The denouement is concerned with the happiness of two pairs of lovers and is quite conventional. The book contains just enough of horror to be thrilling, and just enough of sentiment and humor to be entertaining.

MEMORIALS OF REV. FREDERICK WHITFIELD. Edited by R. S. B. Whitfield. London: Chas. J. Thynne. Cloth, 2s. 6d. The simple story of the life of an Anglican clergyman, recently deceased, whose

principal work was done at Hastings. His was a great and good life, and his name will be perpetuated in a number of beautiful hymns, which he composed.

MOODY, JOHN.—"The Art of Wall Street Investing." New York: The Moody Corporation. Cloth, \$1 net. This is a practical handbook for investors and others which treats the subject of Wall street investing in a simple and sensible manner. The book is made up of ten chapters covering all sides of the stock and bond question, and is written in an attractive and entertaining style. It is useful to almost every business man.

NEWLANDS, J. C.—"Voice Production and the Phonetics of Declamation." Edinburgh: Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier. Cloth, 2s. 6d. net. A valuable hand-book for the embryo public speaker, giving instructions that will aid the beginner in the proper development of his powers of oratory. It has been prepared by a noted lecturer on elocution in several Edinburgh colleges.

ORCZY, BARONESS.—"The Scarlet Pimpernel." Toronto: William Briggs. Cloth, \$1.25. Taking as their badge the little flower of the scarlet pimpernel, a band of young Englishmen set themselves the task of saving the lives of French aristocrats doomed to the guillotine in the days of the Revolution. The utmost secrecy is preserved and the identity of the daring leader carefully concealed. Not until the book is more than half read does the hero emerge from the group of characters, which the author has created. The romance is intensely exciting from first to last.

WHITE, FRED. M.—"The Weight of the Crown." Toronto: McLeod & Allen. Cloth, \$1.25; paper, 75c. The interest of this story centres around a political game played between the English Foreign Office and the secret agents of the Russian Government for the possession of a small kingdom in the Balkans. The Russian agents are foiled, the King of Asturias is killed in a railway accident and three pairs of lovers are made happy in orthodox fashion. Intrigue, masquerading and rapid action characterize this very exciting book.

BOOKS AND STATIONERY IN THE WEST INDIES.

MR. F. E. PHELAN, who recently returned from a trip to the West Indies, has many interesting experiences to narrate. Such an old bookman as he, although he did make the trip solely for pleasure, could not help but to observe the condition of the book and stationery trade on the islands. Mr. Phelan says that there are one or two really excellent bookstores in Kingston and St. Thomas. Altogether there are not more than half a dozen good stores scattered over the islands, but there are numerous little depots where every description of oddities may be obtained, and in these stores a few books and magazines are often kept in stock.

In the one or two larger stores, which are owned by Englishmen, the stocks are fairly large and well kept. The clerks, who are natives, are extremely polite, and serve customers most faithfully all the time they are in the store. Books, periodicals and newspapers from New York, Boston and other places, are obtained at a fairly early date after publication—according to the location of the town—in some cases New York papers are obtainable three days after date of publication.

A great business is transacted in all sorts of souvenirs during the tourist season.