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Literary Notes.

The author of "Mr. Magnus," a novel Mr. T. Fisher Unwin issued a few weeks ago, turns out to be Mr. F. Reginald Statham, the well-known South African journalist who made a quadruple appearance in England as poet, novelist, social essayist, and musician. a few months ago

The New York Journal calls "Without Sin," by Martin J. Pritchard, "the most startling novel yet, which has taken London's breath away," which in these days of startling novels is a strong statement. The book is published by Herbert S. Stone & Company, the new Chicago house

Sir Donald Smith was summoned to a private investiture held by Her Majesty the Queen at Windsor Castle on July 15th, to receive the Order of St. Michael and St. George, the official announcement of which runs as follows:—"The Honourable Sir Donald Alexander Smith, who was presented to Her Majesty as High Commissioner for Canada, was introduced in like manner attended by the King of Arms of the Order carrying the Insignia, when the Queen conferred upon him the honour of Knighthood and invested him with the Riband and Badge of a Knight Grand Cross (by placing the Riband over the right shoulder obliquely to the left side), and affixed to his left breast the Star of the Order."

The Macmillan Company announce "The Life of Richard Cobden," written by John Morley, to be published in the autumn. After a brief narrative of Cobden's early life, of his commercial and mental progress, and of his early travels, special attention is given to his life in Manchester, and the long fight against the Corn Laws which first gave him fame. His life in Parliament, his correspondence with Sir Robert Peel, and later with Mr. Bright and other public men, together with his own intimate knowledge of all that was of most importance in English history during a half century which saw the Crimean War, the Indian Mutiny and the American Civil War, furnish rich material for a biography which must be interesting, even in less capable hands than the author's. In Mr. Morley's hands the book will be of unusual importance as well as of supreme interest.

At last, so runs report, we are to have a thoroughly self-respecting edition of Dickens, in a large and worthy type. Up to the present, by far the best reprint has been that which bears the autograph upon its red cover; but even in this, it must be admitted the print is somewhat trying to tired eyes. Messrs. Chapman & Hall, under the energetic conduct of Mr. Oswald Crawford, are now about to issue a uniform issue at six shilling which shall do justice to the improvements in modern printing. It is particularly fitting that this should be done by the firm with which the name of Dickens has been so long and so honourably connected, and everyone who cares to see an old friend suitably presented will wish the venture the success which it so eminently deserves. There is also to be a new Carlyle, at three-and-sixpence a volume, equally carefully produced.

The Kingston School of Mining announce their annual tour of three weeks for the practical study of geology and prospecting methods. The travelling will be done chiefly by canoes. The party will be supplied with tents and a camp outfit, and will leave Kingston on Tuesday, Sept. 1st. Each member will be expected to assist in all the work of the party, and pay his share of the expenses. It is estimated that the total cost will not be more than twenty dollars for each person for a three weeks' trip. The party will be limited to twenty, but circumstances may arise which will necessitate taking a smaller number. A deposit of twenty-five dollars must be made with the Bursar by each member of the party, not later than August 20th. At the end of the tour the unexpended part (less a tuition fee of three dollars) will be returned. Those who wish to join the party or who desire further particulars concerning the trip should apply to Mr. Wm. Mason, the Bursar, Kingston, Ont.

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