

were taken prisoners when serving under Montgomery in a vain attempt to wrest Quebec from the British. Sir Hiram has lived in England for sixteen years.

The new knight is a great favorite with royalty, and the Duke of York has on more than one occasion visited the Maxim works. At a dinner at which the Prince of Wales and the Marquis of Salisbury were present, the latter, addressing His Royal Highness, said: "I was just telling Mr. Maxim that he has prevented more men from dying of old age than any other man who ever lived." It may be recalled that when the Transvaal Government, early in 1899, sent a big order to the firm for "pom-poms," the matter was submitted to the War Office. The answer ran somewhat as follows: "By all means carry out the order, for if you do not sell to them they will undoubtedly manage to get what they want somewhere or other."

### Current Literature.

"The Slave of the Lamp," by H. Seton Merriman.

Always an enjoyable writer, Mr. Merriman has in this book given us a very fascinating modern romance. The subject dealt with is the present attitude of the Jesuit church towards the republican form of government in France. The writer seems to know whereof he speaks, and the book opens up a somewhat wide field of thought for the student of contemporaneous history in the eccentric republic across the English Channel. Some of the statements are so bold, some of the accusations so definite, that one might almost think Mr. Merriman may have reason to fear such a fate as befalls his hero.

For sale by Victoria Book and Stationery Co.

\* \* \* \*

"Groynett of Thornhaugh," by E. W. Hayes.

There are few more interesting periods in the history of France than that covered by the closing days of Louis IV., "Le Grand Monarque," and the early part of the regency of Philip, Duke of Orleans. Taking this time for his stage, Mr. Hayes has woven a most interesting drama, wherein priests and politicians, courtiers and courtesans, pirates and poisoners, hidden treasure and open truculence, all have their appointed parts. The book sparkles with wit as well as with the clash of steel; and the characters are very well drawn, notably that of the Regent Orleans. You see in him at once the man of unbridled profligacy and license, yet also the far-seeing resourceful statesman, hampered only by the ignorance and jealousy of those around him. You see the natural and kindly instincts of the man breaking through the outer crust of affectation formed by what was then the most artificial court in Europe. There is not a dull page in the book, and it is long since we took up so interesting a work on that interesting period.

For sale by T. N. Hibben & Co.

\* \* \* \*

"That Invisible Man," by H. G. Wells.

Mr. Wells is the Jules Verne of English fiction. This semi-scientific story—half comic, half tragic—is the history of an enquiring gentleman who discovered a means of rendering himself invisible by means of an arrangement somewhat analogous in

principle to the Roentgen rays. Unfortunately, he cannot render his clothes invisible, and from this source springs numberless woes, culminating in a deplorable tragedy.

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(L. S.) HENRI G. JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE.

CANADA.

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, QUEEN, Defender of the Faith, &c. &c. &c.

To Our faithful the Members elected to serve in the Legislative Assembly of Our Province of British Columbia at Our City of Victoria—GREETING.

A PROCLAMATION,

H. A. MACLEAN, } WHEREAS We are desirous and resolved, as Deputy Attorney General } soon as may be, to meet Our people of Our Province of British Columbia, and to have their advice in Our Legislature.

NOW KNOW YE, that for divers causes and considerations, and taking into consideration the ease and convenience of Our loving subjects We have thought fit, by and with the advice of Our Executive Council do hereby convoke, and by these presents enjoin you, and each of you, that on Thursday, the twenty-first day of February, one thousand nine hundred and one, you meet Us in Our said Legislature or Parliament of Our said Province, at Our City of Victoria, FOR THE DISPATCH OF BUSINESS, to treat, do, act, and conclude upon those things which in Our Legislature of the Province of British Columbia, by the Common Council of Our said Province may, by the favour of God, be ordained.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of the said Province to be hereunto affixed: WITNESS, the Honourable Sir HENRI GUSTAVE JOLY DE LOTBINIÈRE, K. C. M. G., Lieutenant-Governor of our said Province of British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our said Province, this seventeenth day of January, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and one, and in the sixty-fourth year of Our Reign.

By Command,  
J. D. PRENTICE,  
Provincial Secretary.