

## BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

## FLEMING H. REVELL'S BOOKS.

THAT idealists, or rather lovers of the ideal, are still numerous throughout Canada and the United States is evidenced by the fact that over 50,000 copies of "In His Steps," an idealistic religious book, by Rev. Chas. M. Sheldon, issued by the Fleming H. Revell Co., have already been sold, though it has been out but four months. Among the other publications handled by the Revell company most popular at present are Andrew Murray's "Ministry of Intercession," and Henry Drummond's last work, "The Ideal Life," a posthumous publication. Another book, which shows no sign of decreasing popularity, is "The Story of John G. Paton," which has now reached its fifth edition. The Presbyterian hymnal continues to sell well, especially the small size edition.

## NEW BOOKS IN MONTREAL.

The monthly crop of new books is not a large one, however, there are a few new features. Wm. Drysdale & Co. are issuing a work entitled "The Diseases of Women," prepared by Dr. J. Clarence Webster, a talented young specialist, who has been assisting Prof. Gardner at McGill College. He spent some years in Edinburgh under the celebrated Prof. Simpson, and is recognized as an authority on female diseases. The work will be used as a text book at McGill College and may be retailed at \$4.

Grafton & Sons are out with a new exercise book on the first four rules of arithmetic. It contains a number of simple examples and should be of material assistance in teaching young children. The book has been authorized for use in the Montreal schools.

Grafton & Sons will shortly place on the market a story by W. D. Lighthall, author of "The Young Seigneur," called "The False Chevalier." The plot resembles that of "Le Chien d'or," and deals with many incidents in the history of Montreal and Quebec. On account of its historical character and the shade of local color given to the story, the book should have a good sale in Canada.

## QUEBEC MUNICIPAL CODE.

Mr. C. Theoret, of Montreal, has now in press the municipal code of the province of Quebec, annotated, in both languages, prepared by J. E. Bedard, Q.C. The work is spoken of as the most complete volume on this subject yet published.

## THE EDITIONS ABROAD.

Mr. J. W. Tyrrell's valuable book of travel, "Across the Sub-Arctics of Canada,"

is being published in England by T. Fisher Unwin, and in the United States by Dodd, Mead & Co., of New York.

## CLEMENT'S HISTORY.

Clement's "History of Canada," the school text-book, prepared under the supervision of a committee representative of the various provinces, has now been authorized by the Departments of Education in all of the provinces of the Dominion. This cannot but be regarded as an important and significant step toward national unification. It is a matter for congratulation that the issue and adoption of a universal text-book in history should have marked the Jubilee year, fraught as it was with so much of consequence to Canada and the Empire.

## ROBERTS' NEW VERSE.

Charles G. D. Roberts, the well-known Canadian poet, who has for the last two years been living in New York city, has not, even in that crowded hive of humanity, been debarred from the cultivation of the muse. We learn that Mr. Roberts has in the press of Lamson, Wolfe & Co., of Boston, a collection of "New York Nocturnes." The title of this book would go to show that instead of discouraging its exercise, life in that stirring city is disposed rather to stimulate the indulgence in poetic fancy.

## A BIOGRAPHY FOR BOYS.

A second edition of Miss FitzGibbon's admirable biography of her grandfather, Lieut.-Col. James FitzGibbon, the hero of Beaver Dam, entitled "A Veteran of 1812," will shortly be issued. It will have an additional chapter, containing a number of very interesting personal letters. No more entertaining biography has been written in Canada. Every boy in the country should have the privilege of reading it.

## ROBERTS' NEW NOVEL.

The second of the three novels which Charles G. D. Roberts is writing about the Acadians—the first of which was the "Forge in the Forest" last year—is to be called "A Sister to Evangeline." It is nearly completed and will be issued by Lamson, Wolfe & Co., Boston.

## DR O'HAGAN ON CANADIAN WRITERS.

In a lecture in Hamilton, Feb. 18, Dr. Thomas O'Hagan, speaking of the writers of Canada, claimed all honor to such names as Joseph Howe, Thomas D'Arcy McGee, Charles Heavysege, Charles Sangster, William Wilfrid Campbell, Mrs. Lawson, Alexander McLaughlin and Mrs. Moody. This is a new school of poets noted for

scholarship, refinement, and patriotism. He contradicted the charge that Canadian poetry was not of a high order because it lacked human action. He placed Charles G. D. Roberts at the head of Canadian poets. The speaker read "Canada," a patriotic selection by Mr. Roberts, and also "The Second Concession of Deer," a descriptive poem. In the department of drama he mentioned Dr. Frechette, and Charles Mair, the author of "Tecumseh." Dr. Drummond, of Montreal, was perhaps the best Canadian dialect poet writing in the French-Canadian patois. He read "The Wreck of Julie Plante" which was heartily applauded. As the best example of elegiac poetry he referred to that of J. W. Bengough, and produced his lines on the death of Tennyson.

In conclusion Dr. O'Hagan made an emphatic criticism of the manner in which literary talent was not encouraged in this country. He did not criticize from any political or party spirit. Things were not managed here as they were in other countries. Instead of the literary toiler getting a position as foreign consul or a professorial chair in our many universities, the political toiler stepped in. As an example he pointed to the position of librarian in the University of Toronto.

## NOVA SCOTIA ARCHIVES.

At a meeting of the Nova Scotia Historical Society, in Halifax, last month, the following officers were elected: President, Hon. J. W. Longley; 1st vice-president, Dr. A. H. McKay; 2nd vice-president, Hon. Senator Power; 3rd vice-president, Hon. Judge Townshend; corresponding secretary, F. B. Crofton; recording secretary, W. L. Payzant; treasurer, R. J. Wilson. Council—Rev. Dr. Forrest, Rev. Dr. Smith, Prof. MacMechan, Rev. Dr. Saunders. Library commission—Hon. Judge Townshend, Rev. Dr. Forrest, Dr. A. H. McKay, J. J. Stewart. Auditors—F. W. Bowes, W. G. Brown. Hon. A. G. Jones and Prof. W. C. Murray were elected members of the society. Prof. C. G. D. Roberts elected an honorary member in recognition of his services to the country, literary and historical. Rev. W. J. Armitage was proposed as a member.

The question of editing and publishing further selections from the political archives was discussed, and it was decided on motion to recommend the council that the work of editing these documents, with the view of publishing another volume of information concerning the early history of this province, be carried out. Professor MacMechan read a very interesting historical note concerning a portrait of the founder of Halifax, efforts to locate which are being made. Concerning materials from which to gather information of the early days, attention was