

D. Roberts, Duncan Campbell Scott, Frederick George Scott, E. Pauline Johnson, S. Francis Harrison, Agnes Maude Machar, Ethelwyn Wetherald, Sara Jeanette Duncan, and the late George Frederick Cameron and Isabella Valency Crawford. On the whole, we are inclined to think that the poems selected well represent the genius of the writers, and do great credit to the judgment of the editor, though, perhaps Prof. Roberts is not represented to the best advantage in the seventeen poems from his gifted pen. The work merits more than a mere notice; a review is impossible without entering into a discussion of the peculiar merits of the writers. Canadian scenery, Canadian life, and the vague aspirations of Canadian sentiment, find expression, sometimes in an exquisite manner, in nearly all of the writers; in fact the volume is a distinct evidence that Canada has a literature peculiarly its own. Campbell's references to the lakes and their surroundings are very happy, as are also Bliss Carman's rich descriptions of Nova Scotian scenes. Lampman's wonderful powers of description is illustrated to the full in many of his poems, notably, in that exquisite series of pictures, surpassing almost anything in Wordsworth, contained in the poem on "Heat." Duncan Campbell Scott reflects well, in a tone distinctively his own, the scenery of the St. Lawrence Valley. The selections from E. Pauline Johnson, another of the writers, exhibit the peculiar personal force and beauty which makes her name rank amongst the greater names in the poetry of the present day. Altogether, the volume is a worthy reflection of Canadian literary attainments, and will receive appreciative attention in many lands. Canadians who wish to know what our own poets are doing, and the high rank they have achieved in the poetry of to-day, will read the volume with pleasure, not unmingled in some cases with surprise. Eight excellent phototypes of Canadian poets from whom selections have been made are given.

*The Marshlands*—By J. F. HERBIN. Royal Octavo, 33 pp. Windsor, N.S., J. J. Austen.

This is a modest, well printed and attractive pamphlet of poems relating to that beautiful Basin of Minas and neighboring lands which has furnished, and will always furnish, a source of inspiration for rare poetry and romance. Mr. Herbin, in this series of short poems, gives in easy flowing verse picturesque reproductions, of much merit, of the scenes and spirit of the Marshlands. His verse is melodious, even in the most difficult measures, and the poems generally show, not merely high descriptive talent, but that touch of soul which marks the truly poetic spirit.

*English Pharisees; French Crocodiles, &c.*—By MAX O'RELL. Demy octavo, 234 pp. Toronto, Rose Publishing Co.

This latest work of Max O'Rell is one of the very best by the racy, piquant author. French and English typical characters are portrayed in brief, pointed sketches; similarities between English and French ideas are skilfully drawn, and likewise the contrasts in the inimitable style of O'Rell. On the whole, the observa-

tions passed by the author appear to be good; at any rate, to contain more than a germ of truth, nor has the author, for the sake of wit and brilliancy, departed from a spirit of good nature and kindness in these sketches, which are at once French in some of their peculiarities, and, after the style of travelled Frenchmen, broadly sympathetic and cosmopolitan. The volume is at once brilliant, witty, and instructive. Some of the sketches—among them "Jacqueline, the Fortune of France"—are masterpieces of appreciative criticism.

*In the Days of the Mutiny.*—By G. A. HENTY, Demy octavo . . . pp. Toronto, Rose Publishing Co.

Few periods in the history of the British Empire afford so fruitful a field for writers of fiction to draw inspiration from than does the period of the Indian Mutiny. The details of the terrible butcheries of that revolt, the deceit, treachery, inhuman cruelty of the mutineers, the heroism of the defenders of the Empire, the awfully perilous position in which the British were placed in many an instance, furnish material for masterpieces in descriptive literature. The present volume, on the whole, does justice to the opportunities afforded. It is a beautiful story, and a large, and for a considerable time, a steady demand for it is almost certain to exist.

*Friendship.*—By MARCUS TULLIUS CICERO, FRANCIS BACON and RALPH WALDO EMERSON,—with portraits. Octavo demy. 104 pp. Chicago, Albert Scott & Co. Toronto, Rowse & Hutchison.

It was a happy idea, the combining in one volume of Cicero's *De Amicitia* (of which an excellent translation is given here by Cyrus R. Edmonds), with the essays of Bacon and Emerson on the same subject. A better selection could probably not have been made from the numerous dissertations that have been essayed on Friendship, nor could reading on this subject be found anywhere more charming, elevating, and profitable to the reflective. Of the three authors, Cicero's essay is the best. Ancient as it is, it is the most appropriate to the relations of men in our modern age, or in fact to the relations of civilized men in any age. It is unnecessary to say to those who have read it, that in justness and clearness of view, in the common sense application of his ideas to every day life, and, perhaps above all, in the lofty morality which characterizes Cicero's view of Friendship, the essay is a masterpiece. Bacon's very short essay presents views very similar to Cicero's. Emerson's quaint and brilliant writing charms, but his view of Friendship, is not satisfying: it is too burdened with conceits that, applied, would not be satisfactory to the best instincts, even of many of the most virtuous. All three of the writers hold that only the virtuous are capable of friendship in the highest sense of that term. The three essays, representing three ages of the history of the world, show how little ideas change on many questions which concern the heart; in fact, Cicero's is more modern in spirit than Emerson's. The volume is well printed on heavy paper.