

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS—Continued.

Hamilton Wright Mabie's "Life of the Spirit" is another of Morang's books, which is bound uniformly with the writer's other works. It has been well spoken of by reviewers, and touches a note of aspiration that is exalted even for Mr. Mabie.

The first edition of "The King's Mirror," by Anthony Hope, was soon exhausted, and another Canadian edition had to be printed. This may be said to be the most artistic volume this writer has yet produced. Although the reader misses in it the wealth of incident which made "The Prisoner of Zenda" and "Rupert of Hentzau" famous, there is in it a close delineation of human character that places it in a class by itself. The effort to trace the development of a young king in a modern State, his views of men and society, has brought out Mr. Hope's best gifts.

Among other novelties, Morang & Co. introduce to the public a convenient reading register, entitled "Books I Have Read," containing blank pages, in which may be recorded title, author, publisher, when and where read, department of literature, sketch of contents, comment and quotation, etc. It is prefixed by an index, in which the industrious reader can note down, from time to time, the books he peruses, and thus in a manner keep tally of his intellectual progress. Memory is treacherous, and from want of a list kept up the reader loses many a pleasure of rest and reflection. Not only will such a register be valuable in itself, but it strengthens the memory and deepens the impression made by the books themselves.

Morang & Co. have in the press the "Canadian Calendar for the year entitled 1900," which is the work of the Toronto Art League, whose work in previous years will be remembered by all. This is the 8th issue, and, as an artistic and national book of pictures, it will be found to surpass previous efforts. It represents the work of a number of Canadian artists, among whom are: Miss C. W. Jeffreys, D. F. Thompson, J. W. Cotton, W. M. Bengough, C. M. Manley, R. Holmes, R. Weir Crouch, F. H. Bridgen, and others. The theme of the publication is the industrial, commercial and social progress of Canada during the past 100 years. This is set forth by pictures which contrast the old coach with the electric car; the prairie with the modern

cattle ranch; the immigrant of 1830, with the modern railway station, the pedlar, with the freight train, etc.

Another important book just issued is a novel by a new writer, "My Lady and Allan Darke." This is the work of Charles Donnel Gibson, and is a romantic story of the last century, describing the imprisonment of the hero on a solitary island, lying off the American coast. The clever way in which the mystery which envelops the hero after he is cast on the island is gradually unravelled makes the book one of the most attractive of recent days.

The people of Vankleek Hill are trying
NOW 14 1899



WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.

to establish a public library and reading room.

The publication of the first Canadian edition of "Houses of Glass," by Dr. Algie, brings this clever novel within reach of the average reader, as the volume appears in a pretty cloth binding at \$1, and in paper, at 50c. The author, in this novel, introduces us to an atmosphere with which we are at once familiar. The people, the style of living, the incidents and the development of the plot, are all characteristics of the

conditions that can be found among the well-to-do educated classes in this country, and, while the actual scenes are not laid in Canada, we can have no doubt that Dr. Algie has drawn upon his knowledge of social life here and utilized his powers of observation upon the men and women of his own time. With special skill he delineates the character of a young girl, ignorant of life, full of passion and handsome above the ordinary. In her extreme youth the girl passes through a terrible temptation, and its shadow threatens to cloud her whole life. In the analysis of mental and moral temperaments, in examination of the motives that prompt human conduct, in narrating the experiences which befall such people as we know, Dr. Algie writes clearly, plainly, and with a firm touch. He knows human life, and his heroine's estrangement from and reconciliation to her husband are described in a masterly way. "Houses of Glass" can be strongly recommended to readers of mature age who appreciate the working out of fate depicted without a trace of mawkish sentiment and with a boldness that is at times surprising.

No woman writer of fiction has a stronger hold upon a large circle of readers in Great Britain and Canada, than Mrs. B. M. Croker. Mrs. Croker has written several novels which betray a special knowledge of Irish character and of military life in India and elsewhere. She possesses a strong sense of humor. Her heroines lack for neither vivacity nor charm. She presents to us the agreeable rather than the serious side of love-making, and her lovers are delightful. The dialogues are bright and amusing. In "Terence," Mrs. Croker's latest novel, her appreciation of Irish humor is once more displayed. The book is highly spoken of in the English reviews

as being one of the author's most successful works. W. J. Gage & Co. are publishing a Canadian edition at \$1, and 50c. A novel by Mrs. Croker can be given as a present to a woman-reader of any age with confidence that its vein of humor, its insight into female motives and its purity will appeal to that sex as well as to men.

"The Crown of Life," by George Gissing, is the latest work from a pen that, both in fiction and in criticism, has achieved no slight reputation. Mr. Gissing is an admirer of Dickens. Like Dickens, his novels deal with the people of his own day, and, while