

NEW BOOKS IN LONDON.

What is Appearing in Biography, Fiction and Other Branches of Literature.

London, November 30, 1901.

THE new Prayerbook has already been named by booksellers the "George, Prince of Wales" edition to distinguish it from previous editions. They were chary of stocking great numbers of the "Duke of Cornwall and York" edition, the change in his title which has now occurred, being anticipated. Thus, in recent months, the sale of the Prayerbook has been less active than usual, but something in the nature of a "boom" is now expected. Most likely the "George, Prince of Wales" Prayerbook will be a much-valued Christmas gift. Apart from the titles, the only change is in the addition of the Accession Service for January 22.

CHEVALIER'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

"The penalty of writing an autobiography," Mr. Albert Chevalier declares, "is that you must do it yourself." He makes this remark in explanation of the occurrence of the "eternal I" in his own autobiography which Mr. Fisher Unwin is just issuing. Mr. Chevalier is half inclined to think that other people should write your autobiography; they know so much more about you. Anyhow he does not want to be thought unduly egotistical, and in proof of that he records with most care the nice things that have been said about him. He has no memory for the nasty ones.

CURZON AS A READER.

It is interesting to hear that Lord Curzon finds time, amid his duties as Viceroy of India, to remain a keen bookman. A stream of the leading English books goes to him, but even he does not buy so many as Lord Ripon did while in India. Of all the recent Viceroys, Lord Ripon was, perhaps, the most ardent book buyer. He was devoted to what, for want of a better term, is called "serious literature."

A fine illustrated edition of Charles Reade's famous novel, "The Cloister and the Hearth," is in preparation. It is announced by Messrs. Chatto, who hold the copyright of Reade's books. Nearly a hundred pictures for it have been drawn by Mr. M. B. Howardine. The story is as much liked in America as it is here, and an illustrated edition of it appeared there not long ago. Sir Walter Besant went to say that "The Cloister and the Hearth" was almost the best novel in the English language.

NEW EDITIONS.

Mr. Murray is bringing out a shilling edition of Darwin's great book, "The Origin of Species." As is known, copy right in the first edition of it is about to expire.

So Robert Ball's lectures on "The Earth's Beginning" will be published by Messrs. Cassell, who also have ready a work by Mr. M. H. Spemann on British sculpture and sculptors of today.

Mr. W. L. Henry's article on his old friend Stevenson, contributed to the new number of *The Pall Mall Magazine*, is already the object of keen talk among literary people.

His book of homely work on "Early Christianity and Paganism" is not likely to appear until the Spring.

Various books are being held over in the same way.

A study of "The Kiss and Its History," by Dr. Christopher Nyrop, a philologist of high European reputation is appearing through Messrs. Sands. The work has already appeared in Danish, Swedish, German, and Russian.

Mr. Edgar Gibson has written a short popular line of John Howard, the great prison reformer. It is to be published at once by Messrs. Methuen.

ITEMS.

We hear that Mr. Balfour has some idea, when he gets time, of revising his well-known book, "A Defence of Philosophy Doubt." Meanwhile he has been going over his latter work, first published in 1895, "The Foundations of Belief," for the eighth edition which is just appearing.

Mr. Hall Caine is writing an article on the Pope and Rome, as he saw both, while staying in the Eternal City. It will appear in *Household Words*, which the novelist's son is going to edit.

The Oxford University Press is publishing together, as a new edition, two works "Milton's Prosody," by Mr. Robert Bridges, and "Classical Metres in English Verse," by Mr. W. J. Stone.

CURRENT FICTION.

Lady Dufferin writes an introductory note to a novel of India, by Miss Cornelia Sorabji, which Mr. Freeman is to publish. It also contains a letter to the authors, from Lord Hobhouse.

"The Fall of Lord Paddock-lea" is a novel which Mr. Hemmings is about to publish. It is an intimate representation of modern political society, well-known personages being introduced under thinly veiled disguises.

Miss Adeline Sergeant is the author of a story entitled "The Marriage of Lydia Manwaring," which Messrs. Hutchinson are publishing. The scenes are laid partly in Egypt, which Miss Sergeant has visited several times.

A story in the manner of Mr. Wells, that is treating of a great upheaval in the universe, is to be published at once by Messrs. Blackwood. It has the title "The End of an Epoch," and is by A. Lincoln Green, a new writer.

Messrs. Chatto are adding Sir Walter Besant's tale of London, "St. Katherine's by the Tower," to their series of two shilling novels.

Already advertisements are appearing for copies of the first edition of "Sir Richard Calmady." But only in the fourth edition, now being sold, has any change been made in the text. What it is exactly may be seen by a reference to pages 159 and 160 of the novel. It amounts to the leaving out of a scene—a scene expressed in a single sentence—which was not essential to the narrative.

Mr. Edwin Lester Arnold is daring enough in the plot of his new story, which Messrs. Cassell will publish. It records, with mingled picturesqueness and humor, how a young Englishman, wearied of the luxuries of modern life, accidentally discovers in his park for he owns a park—a Roman British tomb, and in it the body of a centurion in a state of suspended animation. He is able to revive the Roman soldier by conveying to him half of his own vitality, and, more wonderful still, he conceives the idea that the other is himself in a previous incarnation. Thus there are two of the same individual, and thus, upon the whole, is an awkward position.

A HANDSOME CATALOGUE.

The Christmas book catalogue of The Copp, Clark Co., Limited, is a dainty and tasteful piece of work, in which illustration and arrangement play the first part and the mere book list the second. It is so well adapted for the casual and the regular book-buyer that any bookseller who cannot make good use of any number of copies does not know his business.

Prof. Wm. Clark, of Trinity University, Toronto, has written a volume on Pascal for the series issued by J. & J. Clark, Edinburgh, and known as "The World's Epoch Makers."

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