

ROWSELL & HUTCHISON, Toronto, will soon publish a work on the Election Law, Dominion and Provincial, having special reference to the lately enacted Franchise Bill. The author is Thos. Hodgins, Q.C., whose former works have met with much favour.

THE WILLARD TRACT SOCIETY, Toronto, announce in press, ready early in November "Abundant Grace," by the late W. P. Mackay, of Hull. "Grace and Truth," by the same author has reached a circulation of over 200,000 in the English edition, and nearly 50,000 in the American. The present work being a collection of the author's choicest gems cannot fail to meet with a large demand.

Rather curiously, there is published simultaneously the opinion of two eminent whist experts on the American game and American players of whist. Cavendish has published, through Messrs. De La Rue & Co., in a little book on "Whist Development," a long chapter, consuming half the book, on "American Leads," and Mr. Richard Proctor has given to the public his opinion of the game played here in a very plain and unvarnished style. Mr. Proctor has been excited to speak frankly by the fact that his attempts to teach the Americans to play whist in unnumbered newspaper and magazine articles has been met by the declaration that "Americans can play the game as well as any 'blasted Britisher,'" and it is not odd that he should choose to retaliate. He says: "For one player of good whist there are in England and Europe one hundred players of bad whist (and I have discovered within the last fifteen months, at least one thousand in America.) I am told there are many fine American players—and I am willing to believe it. But, except Mr. Trist, of New Orleans, I have never yet met with an American whist-player who had not some flaw of style. (Errors I care not for—no one can play an evening without a fault; I speak of deliberately-adopted faults of method.) The best player I met in New York had the bad fault of almost always holding up ace second or fourth hand, when king was led, from king, queen and small ones. This pays about three times out of ten; it is therefore very bad play. Mr. Trist's play, so far as I observed it, was without any fault of style." But "Cavendish" has more respect for the American player, and pays Nicholas Bowse Trist, whom Mr. Proctor mentions, the compliment of dedicating his book to him. He does not advocate the so-called American leads which propose a systematic course when opening the strong suit, thus bringing the whole scheme of leading within the purview of general principles; but describes it thoroughly, with many examples of games. He puts the three objections simple, and answers them. The objections, as he mentions them, are: 1. That the American leads complicate the game. 2. They seldom affect the result. 3. That the information afforded may be of more use to your opponents than to your partner. It is a matter which, doubtless, each player will decide for himself, though it would seem as though "Cavendish" inclined towards the American leads; at all events, advocates of them may gain many suggestions from his book to support them in argument.—*London Notes in The Book Buyer.*

"Suakin, 1835: A Sketch of the Campaign by An Officer who was there," is one of the few really stir-

ring and admirable books which follow such a campaign as this in Egypt. It was written while the author was incapacitated by a wound received in one of the battles in the Soudan, and it shows in a vivid way how extreme and peculiar were the privations and dangers due to the climate, and the foe that the English soldier met. It is a plain and straightforward statement of facts, and very interesting facts. It is not an agreeable story to record. There was not much in General Graham's operations in the Eastern Soudan that will figure among the achievements of British arms. The devotion, self-sacrifice and heroism of the troops can hardly count for what they should, when we consider the powers behind which directed their blundering in ineffectual movements. The battles of the Red Sea, the abandoned railway, and the final retirement were not strategical movements which Englishmen care to contemplate for long. The "Officer who was there" is not bitter in his story of these movements, but acts simply as the historian; but even such he cannot but show the mismanagement, which was conspicuous. His stories of the incidents of the campaign are very interesting. But the book is really something more than a clear story of war life and adventure; it presents a picture of the Soudan episode with such colour, and at the same time accuracy, that it is likely to outlast the mushroom literature that has sprung up on the subject.—*London Notes in The Book Buyer.*

THE Century Company publish "The Life and Times of William Lloyd Garrison," in two handsome octavo volumes, fully illustrated. They have in preparation "The Art of Pheidias," by Dr. Charles Waldstein.

"SOUTHERN literature," says the *Atlanta Constitution*, "has, undoubtedly made rapid strides during the past two decades, but its progress has been between two narrow lines. Perhaps we have lost as much as we have gained. We have better sketch writers, more artistic novelists, more realistic poets, and more graphic historians, but in some branches of literature we have lost ground. Even in the lighter class of literary work some of the ante-bellum Southern writers accomplished more than their successors have done. The novels of William Gilmore Simms, the poems of R. H. Wilde, Paul Hayne, James Barron Hope, and others; the writings of Madame Le Vert, Colonel W. T. Thompson, Baldwin, Bagby, etc., have not been equalled in quantity, or surpassed in quality. The essays that formerly appeared in the old *Southern Quarterly* and in *De Bow's Review* have not been approached by anything in recent years."

THE biography of the late Mrs. Jackson ("H.H.") will be written by Mr. Hamilton W. Mabie, one of the editors of the *Christian Union*. It was Mrs. Jackson's written request that he should write it, a long letter on the subject having been written to him by her, a month before her death, and left in the possession of Mr. Niles, of Roberts Brothers, to be forwarded after her death.

CAPTAIN RICHARD F. BURTON's translation of "The Thousand Nights and a Night," is to be limited to a thousand copies, issued at ten guineas each, in ten