

News From Book Centres.

LONDON BOOK NOTES.

A NEW monthly magazine has appeared, called the Realm. It is sold for three pence, and compares very favorably with the other cheap magazines. It remains to be seen if it can be profitably published at a three pence rate. Both the Pearson and the Harnsworth houses tried the experiment of a three penny magazine, but were compelled to increase the price, and what those two great houses could not do can hardly be done by any other house. Still, what was true of the publishing world two or three years ago may not be true now. The tendency of the day is obviously toward lowering the price of all publications. The six penny novels have been a financial success, and there is a very readable little magazine called "T. A. T." which is sold at a penny, and evidently thrives at that price. Then two of the great dailies have reduced their price from a penny to half penny and the publisher of the new English Tauchnitz edition believes that there is a wide field for good shilling novels printed on good paper and good type. So, after all, a three penny magazine may succeed to-day although it could not succeed a few years ago.

The new Rapid Review has been extremely successful. Even Mr. Stead in his Review of Reviews has given it a generous notice, although it is a formidable rival to his own publication. The Rapid Review has now reached its second number, and of its kind it has never been excelled. The proprietors have had the wisdom to print it on excellent paper and to crowd its pages with illustrations. There is no doubt that it must seriously injure the Review of Reviews, and it will probably have the effect of making the latter more and more the literary incarnation of Mr. Stead.

Anthony Trollope's books are said to be coming in favor again, and to meet the revival of interest Messrs. Routledge are arranging to bring out a new library edition.

Mr. Frank Bullen is introducing the young Canadian author, Mr. Norman Duncan, to the English reading public. He says that he is "absolutely certain that with the exception of Mr. Joseph Conrad and Mr. Rudyard Kipling, no writer about the sea has ever probed so deeply and faithfully into its mysteries as Mr. Duncan's book has done." Mr. Bullen, of course, refers to "The Way of the Sea."

Mr. W. L. Alden proclaims Sara Jeannette Duncan's new book, "The Imperialist," to be well worth reading.

The Bookman reports good sales for the following books in England: "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm," by Kate Douglas Wiggin; "Red Morn," by Max Pemberton; "The Magnetic North," by Elizabeth Robins; "Strong Mac," by S. R. Crockett; "The Land of Silence," by G. B. Burgin; "The Cardinal's Pawn," by K. L. Montgomery; "Life in a Garrison Town," by Lieutenant Bilse; "Through Sorrow's Gates," by Halliwell Sutcliffe; "My Friend Prospero," by Henry Harland; and "Stella Fregelus," by H. Rider Haggard.

Mr. Rudyard Kipling is expected back in England from the Cape early in May.

Mr. Henry Frowde is about to publish, under the auspices of the Royal Society of Literature, "Queen Elizabeth and the Levant Company," which sets out the details of a curious diplomatic and literary incident in the establishing of our trading relations with Constantinople.

On April 16 Dr. Samuel Smiles, the author of "Self Help" and other works, passed away in London. Dr.

Smiles was born at Haddington, in Scotland, on December 23, 1812. He first practised medicine and later became editor of the Leeds Times. Afterwards he engaged in railroading. His later years were spent quietly in Kensington, London.

NEW YORK NEWS.

D. Appleton & Company published the long-awaited autobiography of Herbert Spencer on April 22. The work appeared in two volumes.

The title of the new volume by Neith Boyce has been changed by the author and her publishers, Fox, Dulfield & Co., to "The Folly of Others." A sentence from Pliny, adorning the fly-leaf of the volume, explains this piquant phrase: "The best plan is, as the common proverb has it, to profit by the folly of others."

Mrs. Humphry Ward's new novel, the serial publication of which begins in the June number of Harper's Magazine, has been named "The Marriage of William Ashe." The story belongs to a period earlier than that assigned to the recent "Lady Rose's Daughter."

Mr. Maurice Hewlett's new novel, "The Queen's Quair," is announced for publication by the Macmillan Company on the 20th of May. This novel, which has been in great part rewritten since it appeared serially in the magazines, gives for the first time a picture of Mary Queen of Scots and her times from the human standpoint. It is described as a fascinating historical study of the times and the people, combined into a novel of first-rate power and interest.

Mr. George P. Brett, the president of the Macmillan Company, who has just returned to New York from a business trip to London, made arrangements while abroad for the establishment of an Australian agency for the company. The Australian house is to be opened and run in connection with the Messrs. Macmillan of London. Hereafter all books published by the Macmillan Company will appear simultaneously in New York, London, Canada and Australasia, as well as in India, where the house now has branches.

WOLSELEY'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

FIELD-MARSHAL VISCOUNT WOLSELEY has called his autobiography very appropriately "The Story of a Soldier's Life," and he has dedicated it with equal appropriateness to the Right Honorable Lord Mountstephen. To a soldier the book is of intense interest, for he finds in it the tale of a kindred spirit, stirred with the same ambitions. To the civilian it proves of no less interest, for in its pages may be traced the moulding of an empire. The life of Lord Wolseley has extended over a considerable term of years and has comprehended in its span a considerable number of epoch-making events. Moreover his station in life has enabled him to move from one portion of the globe to another as the centre of interest shifted. He has thus passed through the Crimean Campaign against Russia, the Indian Mutiny, numerous campaigns in India and the Far East, the Civil War in the United States, the Fenian Invasion of Canada, the Red River Expedition, the Ashantee War, and several others. The perusal of chapter after chapter of his fascinating narrative of these events quite delights the reader. The style is simple and direct, as a soldier's story should be. (2 vols. Book Supply Co., Toronto, \$5.)