

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS—Continued.

had ever been before. The climb took nearly four hours, and Mr. Fraser and his men slid down in an hour and a half, enjoying a very thrilling ride."

NEW SPORTING PAPER.

The newsdealers of Canada found a neat little stranger among their receipts from the Montreal News Co. last month in the shape of *Rod and Gun* in Canada. The new venture is published in Montreal, has good financial support, and its contributors are among the best of Canadian writers on topics of interest to the sportsman. Typographically, there is nothing to be desired, and, as far as heard from, *Rod and Gun* has been a good seller. It retails at 10c., the trade being supplied exclusively by the Montreal News Co.

GEORGE N. MORANG & CO.'S BOOKS.

One of the leading items of recent weeks in the book world has been the determination of Mr. Kipling to put his foot down on the piracy of his works that has been carried on to such an extent by publishers in the United States. There are still some publishers who do not recognize that an author has any right in the productions of his brain, and who seize any opportunity that is open to them to print large editions of stolen works. Mr. Kipling has obtained the services of a strong band of cooperators, and they are now engaged in smiting the Philistines hip and thigh.

Coincidentally there has been brought out a 15-volume edition, at \$15, of Mr. Kipling's works, of which George N. Morang & Company, Limited, with their usual enterprise, have obtained 1,000 sets for Canada. This issue will be regarded as a satisfactory addition to their libraries by most modern people. It is the sort of edition that increases in value with a moderate but sure speed, and it may be regarded as in some measure analogous to that edition of Dickens which, coming out monthly in green paper covers, was the delight of people when it was being issued, and is now precious not only to bibliophiles, but commercially. Therefore, every wise person will buy this \$15 edition of Kipling, of which the top boy in the publishers' class says "Mr. Rudyard Kipling has arranged for the issue of an inexpensive copyrighted 15-volume edition of his works. It is his hope that it will be accepted by the public in place of the many cheap and inaccurate collections which have been issued without Mr. Kipling's knowledge or permission." It is something, considering the flood of pirated editions that have been put upon the market, to have an edition presented to us which bears the author's imprimatur in this emphatic way,

and the edition is made more valuable from the fact that it contains an authorized sketch, by Prof. Charles Elliot Norton, of Mr. Kipling's career since he was born on the last day but one of the year 1865.

The event took place at Bombay. His mother was the daughter of Rev. G. B. Macdonald, a Wesleyan Methodist preacher, eminent in the denomination. His father, John Lockwood Kipling, was also the son of a Wesleyan preacher. Both his parents were of Yorkshire birth. Presumably his maternal grandfather was of Celtic blood, in the corpuscles of which alone, as we know from Mr. Grant Allen, runs the creative and artistic faculty. It may be said that Kipling's gift of expressing himself is inherited. The recruiting of the ranks of the ministry of the Wesleyan Church in England is on the free and open principle, and depends on fitness. There are Churches in England in the preaching ranks of which a position may occasionally be secured by family or other influence. The Wesleyan Church is not one of them, and there is one qualification which the Wesleyan preacher must have, and failing which he can never be called, and that is, to use a homely colloquialism, "the gift of the gab." He must not only be able to think, but to express his thoughts. In addition to this, the young man must be of undeniable purity of life, and he must be filled with enthusiasm which rises above the things of this world. It will be seen, therefore, that Kipling had an ancestry that was favorable to his future success. A visit to England when he was three years old, then two years at Bombay, was followed by six years at Southsea in charge of friends, who appear to have failed to understand the uncommon child—and he had a trip to Paris with his father in his thirteenth year, and four years at a good school at Bideford, in Devonshire. During his school days, his holidays were often spent in the house of his relative by marriage, Sir William Burne-Jones, where he had the inestimable privilege of meeting many literary and artistic people, one of the most frequent visitors being William Morris, the poet. His school course being ended, he returned to Lahore, India, whither his parents had removed. An appointment was obtained for him on the staff of *The Civil and Military Gazette*, which is the chief journal of Northwestern India. Here he remained five years, and thus completed his education as a writer. School and a certain amount of travel had been succeeded by the hard discipline of a newspaper office. From *The Gazette* he went to *The Pioneer*, of Allahabad, and, after two years' service, he was sent by that journal on a tour round the world. It will be seen, therefore, that not only had the future writer a good

hereditary start, but that his education was precisely that which was calculated to fit him for the special class of work he was to undertake. He made the best of his advantages; he has always been a persistent and arduous worker, and he was the first to exploit the Anglo-Indian field.

Geo. N. Morang & Company, Limited, also announce a new Klondike book under the title of "An English Expert on the Klondike." It consists of the report of Mr. A.N.C. Treadgold, who was sent out by *The London Mining Journal* to examine the Klondike and the Yukon region. It is by far the most practical and comprehensive that has yet been printed. Mr. Treadgold was just the man to undertake such a mission, and he has produced a report illustrated with maps and reproductions of original diagrams and drawings that enable the reader to judge with intelligence of Klondike possibilities. It shows, among other things, that the Klondike has been considerably misrepresented; that if it is exploited in the right way it is a land of no special hardship; that it is a region of even richer gold-producing possibilities than has been represented, and that if men with capital bravely tackle it in a sensible way, instead of paying an absurd price for claims, there is no doubt that they will get a proper return. Moreover, it passes in review the vexed questions of transportation, railways and government, and enables one to judge with regard to many questions respecting which there has hitherto been much animated discussion with but little knowledge. The placing of this valuable book on the market at the price of 50c. is a good piece of work in the direction of a better understanding of one branch of Canadian resources.

"Society Types" is another attractive little book that this firm are now putting through the press. In it a clever writer who adopts the Gilbert and Sullivanish title of "Ko-Ko" has given his impression of the various kinds of people that infest—or inhabit—or grace, the haunts of society. Male and female persons are thus brought under review, and their type identified. "Ko-Ko" is a sort of collector—out for moths. Some he sticks a pin through, adds a touch of varnish, and makes them look quite natural. Others he preserves without impaling, and calls us to admire the beauty of their wings. One or two he has had to use his cyanide bottle upon. It is a very smart and clever little book, with a touch of Gallic cynicism in it. Everybody will read it to find out whether they are impaled, cyanided, or caressed. Each chapter begins with a sketchy initial letter by that clever young artist Fergus Kyle. The book is sure to have a great sale from now till Christmas