

## THE BOOK PAGE

A new book by Sir Gilbert Parker, **The Money Master**: Being the Curious History of Jean Jacques Barville, His Labors, His Loves and His Ladies (The Copp, Clark Company, Toronto, 360 pages, 6 full page illustrations by André Castaigne, \$1.50), is a romance of modern French-Canadian life. "M'sieu Jean Jacques," the owner of the Manor Cartier, miller and money lender and the great man of St. Saviour's parish, having spent a year at Laval University, prides himself on being a philosopher, and has a large idea of his own importance in the world. The tale opens with an account of the hero's grand tour to Paris and Normandy, whence his ancestors had come to Canada with Frontenac, and of his meeting, on the homeward voyage, and falling in love with, the fascinating Spaniard Carmen Dolores, who was on the way to Canada with her father Sebastian, an adventurous scoundrel. The ship Antoine, a leaky old tub, in which they were sailing, struck a sunken iceberg, and went down not far from the coast of Gaspé, and Carmen saved Jean Jacques from drowning. In due time the Spanish girl became the mistress of the Manor Cartier. For a time things went smoothly, and then misfortunes came like a flood on the head of poor Jean Jacques. Wife, daughter, property,—of all these he was cruelly stripped. But the story shows him, in spite of his vanities and foibles, as a true and honorable man, who fought his own way through all ills and at last reached a peaceful haven.

In **A Baby of the Frontier** (Fleming H. Revell Co., Toronto, 286 pages, \$1.25 net) Cyrus Townsend Brady goes back to the early days in the Western States when Indian raids were very real terrors. A sergeant and a handful of soldiers acting as escort to the Colonel's wife on the way to her wounded husband at an outlying fort, were attacked by a band of Cheyenne Indians. The Colonel's little daughter was born in the midst of the attack. The perils under which the little girl began life, presaged some of the thrilling adventures with which she was to meet later. Other striking characters in this interesting story are the brave Irish sergeant and his plucky wife, and a fine old scout of the plains.

"When men's bodies go to sleep," she answered, "their souls cross the border to the unknown country, and recover all they have lost, and gain all they have hoped for that is best." This was the assurance that came, in his dreams, to a brother, whose rarely loved sister had, after many years of companionship and travel, been suddenly removed from him. **The Unknown Country**, by Coningsby Dawson, Illustrations by W. C. Rice (McClelland, Goodchild and Stewart, Toronto, 61 pages, 50c.), is an exquisite prose idyll, relating the life of the two here and their experience when she had passed into the "Unknown World" and he met with her in his dreams by night. From the same publishers comes **Still Jim**, by Honoré Willis (369 pages, \$1.35), an intensely interesting story of a great engineering enterprise in the far West.

Two volumes added to the International Theological Library (T. & T. Clark, Edinburgh, U. C. Tract Society, Toronto) during 1915 are: **History of Christian**

**Missions**, by Charles Henry Robinson, D.D. (533 pages, \$2.50 net), and **The Latin Church of the Middle Ages**, by André Lagarde, translated by Archibald Alexander, Ph.D. (600 pages, same price). Dr. Robinson is the Editorial Secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, and his book is one which the serious student of missions will wish to have at hand as a thesaurus of concise information regarding the beginnings and present conditions of mission work in various parts of the world. Valuable statistics are given concerning the organization and operations of the numerous missionary societies on both sides of the sea. An interesting appendix deals with the question of Christian Reunion in the Mission Field. The author's point of view may be gathered from the distinction which he makes between "the Anglican and Protestant Churches." The volume by Lagarde covers a fascinating field. For it deals with the rise of monasticism, the relations of the papacy to the empire, the political and religious advance of the papacy and the story of the crusades, of the inquisition and of the great church councils. And over this wide field the reader is pleasantly borne by one who is a master not only of his subject, but also of a lucid and interesting style.

The first volume of Peloubet's **Select Notes on the International Lessons** was issued in 1875; the forty-second volume on the Lessons for 1916 is now on the market. To have carried on such a publication for more than two score years is indeed a notable achievement. And every year has marked an advance in excellence. The "Notes" in 1875 occupied 160 pages; they now fill 384 pages of skilfully arranged and well packed materials. Instead of the two outline maps in black and white of 1875, there are now three beautiful maps in colors. There were no illustrations in the first issue; there are now 125 pictures of great interest and value. The up-to-date teacher of the Uniform Lesson, in any grade of the School, can scarcely afford to be without his "Peloubet," in which so great a mass of information and such a wealth of helpful suggestion are set before him in so compact and convenient a form. The publishers are the W. A. Wilde Company, Boston, and the price is \$1.15 postpaid.

Amongst the helps for the Sunday School teacher, **Tarbell's Teacher's Guide** has won for itself a place in the first rank. The volume for 1916 contains many interesting and valuable features. Prefixed to the treatment of the specific Lessons is an extremely useful and well written account of the Books of the New Testament, and particularly of those which are to be studied during the year. "A Teacher Training Thought from the Lesson" and "Suggestions for Beginning the Lesson" indicate how the Lesson passage may be adapted to scholars of the various grades. The "Topics for Bible Class Discussion" and the "Work to be Assigned for Next Lesson" are full of suggestion. The references to other scriptures throwing light on the passages for weekly study are unusually copious and well chosen. Altogether the "Guide" for 1916 is an uncommonly thorough-going and workmanlike production, and will help the diligent teacher over many a hard place.