

fortunate who have the chance to read or own another book from Copp, Clark, **Young Crusoes of the Sky** (by F. Lovell Coombs, 380 pages, illustrated, \$1.50). Three lads are carried off in a runaway balloon from the grounds of the Toronto Exhibition. After breathless adventures they reach San Francisco with a quantity of Aztec gold. **The Sick-a-Bed Lady**, by Eleanor Hollowell Abbott (371 pages, illustrated, \$1.30 net), is collection of short stories. They are all love stories, but each with its own individuality and most of them possessing charm of plot and style. Miss Abbott will be recalled as the author of the very successful little book of last year, *Molly-Make-Believe*. In, **The Honourable Peggy** (same publishers, 432 pages, \$1.25), G. B. Lancaster has turned from the New Zealand setting usual in this writer's work, to England. A young English army officer, and a young Canadian who has grown up from a gutter snipe in Winnipeg through a youth and manhood of hard knocks, are contestants for the hand of the Hon. Peggy. A motor tour through England with the fair lady's guardian as a fourth, gives an opportunity for the introduction of much interesting historic material, as well as for plenty of incidents in the working out of the three-cornered love story.

In J. J. Bell's altogether charming story, **Jim** (The Musson Book Company, Toronto, 150 pages, \$1.00), Samuel Girdwood, "the reputed oldest inhabitant of Ciure Bay", a favorite resort of artists, is a vain old villager who makes himself the hero in endless talks of the most marvelous adventures in lands which he has never seen, and is ambitious to have his portrait placed

on canvas by some of the painters whom he frequently sees busied with their easels and brushes. The story shows how "Jim Crow", the little son of an artist, secures for the old man the gratification of being made the subject of a two hundred and fifty guinea picture, and, at the same time by his unbounded faith in the old man's tales, wins the old man back to the simplicity and candor of childhood. The tale is exquisitely told, and "Jim", as a type of child life, will long live in the memory of the reader.

Henry Van Dyke's Christmas Story, **The Sad Shepherd** (Copp, Clark Co., Toronto, 56 pages, frontispiece, 75c.), is done in his characteristically exquisite way. The "sad shepherd" is the prodigal son, and the tale of his drifting, in his misery and despair, to the night fires of the Bethlehem shepherds and keeping watch there for them whilst they go into the little town at the angel's bidding, and of how, on their return, he also went to see the Babe in His manger cradle, and to wonder and praise, gives a fresh and touching version of the prodigal turned into a rejoicing penitent. The book will be a favorite Christmas gift.

The Course of Impatience Carningham, by Mabel Burkholder (Musson, Toronto, 327 pages, \$1.25) is the story of a factory girl, who becomes an heiress and the bride of one of the partners of the concern in which she was employed. The interest of the tale centres about the heroine who, by sheer innate nobility of heart and force of character, wins her way from the bench of a fur sewer to a position in which she was able to turn into realities the dreams which she had always cherished for the betterment of her fellow employees.



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