

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS—Continued.

novel that runs up into the hundred thousands—more's the pity."

Ellen Thorneycroft Fowler has just given us a new volume of fiction entitled "Sirius." It is a gallery in vivid miniature of various phases of life in the upper middle classes of English society. To readers who have read her books, "Concerning Isabel Carnaby," "The Farringdons," etc., this new work needs no introduction. It displays her humor and epigrammatic quality and her adroitness of character suggestion which have won such great popularity for her original and quaint stories.

Two very popular books are "Stringtown on the Pike" and "A King's Pawn." These are accorded a leading place in The Bookman's list of the best selling books of



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the month, and are among the six most popular books in six of the largest cities in the United States.

Mr. Angwill's work is never ordinary or of the cheap sensational order, and this doubtless explains why his books are popular for many years, and his work is not in vain. In a lengthy review of his "Mantle of Elijah," The Montreal Star concludes as follows: "No one who cares for the higher form of novelistic work, with seriousness of aim and a studious elaboration of style, can fail to welcome 'The Mantle of Elijah' as a human document of real value and significance." W. J. Gage & Co. have just issued a second Canadian edition.

Several of the new books announced by the Copp, Clark Co.'s have appeared during the past month. The "Helmet of Navarre" is perhaps the most notable in the list, and its absorbing interest as an historical romance has caught the fancy of thousands of readers in the New York market in which it is appearing serially.

The advance orders placed by Canadian dealers were large, and the book is expected to be one of the best sellers in the list for a long time.

In "The Observations of Henry" Jerome K. Jerome presents a series of short tales embodying the experiences of a London waiter with certain types of people whom he had run across in the daily round of work. They all are readable, rather amusing and end well. While not farcically humorous, as Mr. Jerome's previous works would lead one to think, they do not want for a certain quality of satire. The quaint philosophy of Henry, who never rises above his rank and regards all the persons whose adventures he sketches from his own standpoint, is well worth a study.

Hamlin Garland's "Her Mountain Lover" turns out to be a richly humorous tale with a lively action from start to finish. The Colorado miner, "Jim," who goes to London to sell a mine and carries all his Western ways with him, is a delicious piece of semi serious absurdity, and his remarks upon the cherished institutions of England are amusing in the extreme. It is a man's or a woman's book just as you like and can be strongly recommended to readers who like a judicious admixture of social satire and adventure.

A highly important work is Holmes' "Life of Queen Victoria," which was issued a few years ago in a sumptuous edition at \$50 with the Queen's authority and partly under her supervision, and which is now accessible for popular sale at \$2 retail. It is profusely illustrated and nicely bound. It has the advantage of being authentic, especially as regards the early life of the Queen, and is brought down to date. For a one volume life of the late sovereign it is not likely ever to be equalled. Mr. Holmes is the librarian of the Royal Library at Windsor, and his sources of information were, therefore, unique. More elaborate and far more expensive biographies will doubtless appear in the course of time, but this one will fill all the purposes of popular trade.

The latest issue of Longman's Colonial Library is "Lysbeth" by H. Rider Haggard, a tale of the Dutch revolt against Spanish rule in the 16th century. The tragic career of Lysbeth, whose son Foy is the hero of the story, is wound up through him with the cause of William the Silent. It is a stirring tale, with a love story connecting the stormy scenes of the terrible period. There are scenes of great impressiveness in the book.

The long delayed work of Winston Churchill, "The Crisis," is promised for May 25. From such advance notices as

we have seen it is hailed as superior to "Richard Carvel."

In June the same publishers expect to have out an edition of S. R. Crockett's new volume entitled "Cinderella."

"Pro Patria" and "Mistress Nell" are two other new novels with qualities that appeal to large sections of the reading public.

A new Canadian story, one that promises a degree of popularity to threaten the best of its predecessors, will shortly be published. The writer is Miss Winnifred Johnston, of Fredericton, N.B. Miss Johnston entitled her story "From Laughter to Song," and its scene is laid in the fishing village and Summer resort of Carillon, on the Lower St. Lawrence. The story is unique, in that it introduces the modern French-Canadians of the better educated class. Heretofore we have had only the habitant, or the French of early colonial times, in our Canadian novels. In Miss Johnston's story the inter relation in social life of the French and English is depicted, and the climax comes when the heroine, Kitty Russell, falls in love with a brilliant young Frenchman. The dialogue throughout the story is conspicuously clever and vivacious, and descriptive passages of rare beauty abound.

A volume of "Canadian Essays: Historical and Critical," from the pen of the well-known poet and litterateur, Thomas O'Hagan, Ph. D., is on the press. The earlier essays in the book deal with the history of the Roman Catholic Church in Canada; the later ones, of more general interest, are on such topics as "The True Story of the Acadian Deportation," "French-Canadian Life and Literature," "Canadian Poets and Poetry," and "Canadian Women Writers." Dr. O'Hagan has made a special study of Canadian literature, and, as he is a capable and discriminative writer, his volume of essays will be well worth procuring.

An attractive and interesting story of country life in Northern Ontario, entitled "Pine Lake," by Miss Magwood, of Hanover, is in course of issue. It describes the experience of a young school teacher leaving home to take charge of a country school. A lively picture of the social life of the community is given. The moral is in the influence upon the life of the place of a sensible, strong-minded girl. The story ran as a serial in Onward, and created most uncommon interest and a general demand for another from the same writer.

A Canadian edition of another of Grant Allen's delightful Nature books is shortly to