

BOOKS AND THEIR MAKERS

"The Life of D. L. Moody." HUNDREDS of thousands of people throughout the English speaking world have come under the spell of the late D. L. Moody, and a life of this remarkable evangelist is likely to prove popular at the present time, when his death is still fresh in the minds of the people. For, materialistic as the age unquestionably is, it is also, on the other hand, an age of religious organization and of much grappling with spiritual problems. Even an irreligious man may be eager to learn the sources of the wonderful power of so remarkable an exponent of Christianity as Mr. Moody. Such a life of the great preacher has just been issued from the presses of the Poole Publishing



Company, Toronto. The work is by the Rev. J. N. Hallock, D.D., and others. Though concise (144 pages), it is well written and covers the ground. There is not a dull page in the book. Mr. Moody certainly had a marvellous career, and one who commences to read about it is not likely to be satisfied till he has exhausted the sources of information at his command. There is no question that biography is

one of the most entertaining and inspiring forms of literature. The career of one who, without culture, was able to mould thousands upon thousand of men to his way of thinking and doing, could scarcely fail to be of absorbing interest when handled in the sprightly and vivacious style of Dr. Hallock's work.

The early life and training of Mr. Moody, his association with Mr. Sankey, the later stages of his career and his death are all recounted in a pleasing manner. The last 50 pages of the book are devoted to an "appreciation" by the Rev. Dr. Pentecost, followed by a large number of the deceased preacher's gems of thought, and a collection of stories and anecdotes. There are 33 illustrations.

Some of the anecdotes are strongly indicative of the man's character. Here is one: When Mr. Moody was asked to conduct his first mission in London, in 1874, he met a committee of ministers to explain his methods. A minister asked Mr. Moody for his creed. He replied that his creed was already in print. A number of the clergymen seized pencil and paper, asking where it could be found. "In the fifty-third chapter of Isaiah," said Mr. Moody.

At one of the meetings during Mr. Moody's services in Kansas City, hymn sheets were distributed by the ushers just

previous to his address. He was feeling very tired, and speaking was a great exertion, so, fearing the noise that would result should the audience rustle them, he resolved to get rid of them. He called out, "Will everybody who has a hymn sheet hold it up?" The sheets were held up all over the hall. Mr. Moody shouted, "Now shake them!" Twelve thousand flimsy sheets of paper were shaken vigorously. They made an indescribable sound. There is nothing, to compare it with. One can only say it was a vast rustle. "That will do," called Mr. Moody at the top of his voice. The sound ceased. "All right," said Mr. Moody. "Now sit on those hymn sheets!" The audience sat on them. Having taken this precaution against interruption, Mr. Moody began his sermon.

The evangelist was gifted with an exceedingly alert and resourceful mind, and an aptness for repartee which stood him in good stead on many occasions. When Mr. Moody first met Mr. Gladstone, the great statesman, after a moment's survey of the sturdy form of the preacher, said: "I wish, Mr. Moody, that I had your shoulders." Quick as a flash Mr. Moody responded, "And I wish I had your head."

Anthony Hope's
New Book.

"CAPTAIN DIEPPE." Anthony Hope's new fantastic romance, is a clever book, without question. The narrative, though brief, abounds in deftly contrived incidents. Captain Dieppe is an adventurer. He is a gentleman to boot. He drops as from the clouds into a situation that would be very serious if it did not happen also to be funny. The gallant Captain falls in love just when the proprieties are against his doing any such thing, but all the time the god from the machine is keeping an eye on the tangle, and at the right moment steps in to make everybody happy. Some deceit is practised by personages whom we would like to have more fastidious on the point of honor. But no harm is done, nobody is really the worse for the commission of a few indiscretions, for the suppression of a few embarrassing secrets. In fact, Anthony Hope seems to have let himself go in this short romance. He is joyously extravagant. He sets out to be amusing, and he succeeds. The book is a trifle, but a very clever one.

Kipling's
Latest.

THE scene of Mr. Kipling's new, long novel, by the way, is Burmah. It must be confessed that people are not looking forward to the production of his tale with the eagerness that would have been felt a couple of years ago. There is a potent truth in this paragraph from the current Bookman: "We feel very confident in saying that we would not exchange 'The Man Who Would Be King' or 'The Drums of the Fore and Aft' for everything that he may in future write. Mr. Kipling may go on as he has been doing, turning out and selling for good round sums meaningless fiction and insincere verse until he is accepted as the impotent mediocrity which his recent work would seem to stamp him. This is his probable course, and the result is inevitable. There is another course. He is still a young man—not yet 35. He has won for himself a comfortable fortune; his books should bring him annually handsome royalties for many years to come. Why should he not lay aside his pen for five or ten years, write not a line and get away entirely from the idea of 'copy'? Then, at the end of this time, did he feel impelled to turn anew to the task of writing books, we might see a Kipling of 40 or 45 in some degree worthy of the Kipling of three or four and twenty."

Professor Roberts
Also.

MR. CHARLES G. D. ROBERTS has written a new novel which he calls "The Heart of the Ancient Wood." It is a story of life in the Northern forests, and some of the characters are wild beasts. One of them is old Kloof, the bear, who is a lovable fellow, partaking in the attractive traits of other book bears lately introduced to the world of readers. The novel is to appear in complete form in the April Lippincott.

P. V. N.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"BALDOON." A Canadian novel. By the Rev. Le Roy Hooker, author of "Enoch, the Philistine." Toronto, Poole Publishing Co.

"THE MISTAKES OF MOSES AND OTHER SERMONS." By the Rev. Wm. Patterson, pastor of Cooke's Presbyterian Church, Toronto. Poole Publishing Co.

"THE PREPARATION OF RYERSON EMBURY." By Albert W. Carman. Toronto, The Publishers' Syndicate.