

## BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

### "STERLING ADVANCE TABLES."

THE second edition of Becher's "Sterling Advance Tables," published by William S. Becher, accountant of the Hudson's Bay Company, at Winnipeg, is now out and meeting with ready sale.

This book, which is of infinite value to importers, shows the cost of an article purchased in sterling from 1/4d. to 100s., with the advance added in Dominion currency at every 2 1/2 per cent. up to 100 per cent. (including 33 1/3 per cent. and 66 2/3 per cent.) It is arranged with a separate table for each rate per cent., and is calculated upon the legal standard par of exchange, viz., \$4.866 to the £ sterling, and contains tables of exchange, weights and measures, etc.

The special advantages of this work, as compared with that hitherto in general use, are that the calculations, which are guaranteed to be accurate, are based upon the legal standard par of exchange of to-day, instead of the obsolete Halifax currency, and, by the arrangement of the tables, each rate per cent. of advance having a separate page, as many costs as required at any one rate can be found without turning over a page.

Mr. Becher has received a large number of letters of recommendation from importers throughout the country, and several prominent firms in Montreal and Toronto state that in their opinion it is invaluable to all importers of British goods, as an accurate and labor-saving means of arriving at the laid down cost of an article.

### A BRIGHT MUSICAL JOURNAL.

The second number of *The Musician*, the musical journal which Whaley, Royce &

Co., Toronto, recently revived, has been issued. It is neat and attractive in its appearance, and in its reading matter there is a great deal that is interesting and instructive to musicians. The subscription price is \$1 per year.



MARY WILSON ALLOWAY.

The latest addition to works of Canadian patriotism is a book entitled "Famous Firesides of French Canada," by Mary Wilson Alloway. It is a delightfully written narrative, which should increase an interest in the homes of the early days of the Province of Quebec, being a treasury of momentous facts and incidents of which no Canadian should be ignorant. In it the writer has caught the romantic and domestic side of some portions of Canadian history, from the time when Madame Champlain sat by her fire-side under the cliffs at Quebec until Lady Maria Carleton reigned at Castle St. Louis. The book is fully illustrated, printed in good type, and makes an excellent and instructive souvenir of Canada. Mrs. Alloway, the authoress, is a Canadian by birth, being a native of Montreal and educated in that city. She developed an early taste for writing, some of her schoolgirl poems having appeared in the columns of the daily press, and later occasional articles and short stories. Removing, in 1885, to the American Northwest, a new field was opened up, and many of the agricultural journals and magazines of the Northwestern States have published articles from her pen on subjects relative to the development and resources of that great region, as well as articles of travel, some of which were widely copied. She also contributed short stories for young readers to a prominent publishing house of Chicago. Returning to reside in Montreal in 1897, she became deeply interested in the historical associations of her native land, which resulted in the above-named volume, which has been most favorably received, and commends itself to those interested in the heroic past of Canada, in which the flags of France and Britain, have successively waved from her forts and ramparts.

### A M'GILL SOUVENIR.

E. M. Renouf, bookseller, St. Catherine street, Montreal, has recently issued a handsome souvenir of the Medical Faculty of McGill College, which should prove of much interest not only to the students and graduates of that faculty, but to all who have been in any way connected with the university. The title is "McGill University Medical Faculty Illustrated," and it is splendidly bound in the university colors, red and white, with gilt lettering, and the

McGill coat of arms, and contains many interesting pictures of the interior and exterior of the various laboratories, with portraits of the professors connected with each, together with fine half-tone portraits of the principal and dean of the college, as well as those of Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, Mr. J. H. R. Molson, and others prominently connected with the faculty.

### VIEWS OF MONTREAL.

Yet another new and interesting souvenir of Montreal will shortly be issued by the enterprising bookseller of that city, E. M. Renouf. It is in the shape of a portfolio of handsome illustrations of the city and district, cloth bound, and printed on the best English toned paper.

It is claimed for this issue that it will surpass, both in size and finish, anything of this description that has heretofore been obtainable.

### A NEW FRENCH TEXT BOOK.

Prof. Ingres, of McGill University, will shortly publish a new French text book for use in the college, Montreal High School, and other prominent educational institutions. It will be most complete and of the greatest assistance to the student of the French language.

### W. A. FRASER MOUNTAIN-CLIMBING.

W. A. Fraser, the Canadian short-story writer whose recent volume, "The Eye of a God," attracted so much attention, is holidaying in British Columbia. Re-

ferred to his visit, The Province, of Vancouver, says: "Mr. Fraser has never been west of Calgary before. He is getting fresh impressions of the country, and one of his stories in the near future may be filled with local color. One of his achievements in which he takes pleasure in relating is his ascent of the upper Illecillewaet glacier, where he stopped for a day on his journey down the valley. With two trusty Swiss guides—Edward Foutz and Christian Gester—Mr. Fraser climbed a peak where none