

NEW BOOKS REVIEWED—Continued.

story has a weird interest of its own. The scenes are laid in England, principally in the fashionable society of London, and the heroine, Ursula Harlowe, is transplanted from the country to London by Sir Hugh, as an experiment, to see if she would shine in society. The girl is in love with him, while he is unconscious of his power over her. But there seems to be a mysterious hypnotic influence which appears to draw her spiritually and materially to her lover. Of this, he is also unconscious. An investigation into their true mental relations causes discovery of this strange connection, and Sir Hugh wakes up too late, to find that he loves Ursula. It is related that the mysterious force wears out the girl's nervous system and that her fate is due to this phase of human magnetism about which so little is scientifically known. The author's style is good, and the book deserves to be read.

SIR FRANK LOCKWOOD.—By Augustine Birrell, M.P. Cloth, portraits and illustrations, 226 pp., 10s. 6d. Smith, Elder & Co., London, Eng. This is a perfect piece of literary work. Mr. Birrell's charming style, his keen appreciation of Sir Frank Lockwood's kindly, humorous and clever personality, have combined to render him an admirable biographer. Sir Frank Lockwood, who visited Canada a few years ago with Lord Russell, of Killowen, made many friends who will read this delightful book with pleasure. Members of the bar, especially, will like the career of the amiable and able Englishman, who rose to be Solicitor-General, and who, though never a great politician, enjoyed a large circle of such devoted friends as are seldom vouchsafed to anyone. The illustrations are capital reproductions of the caricatures with which Lockwood used to delight the bench, the bar, his family and his friends. Never had a man a more genial humor, never a player of practical jokes less intention of wounding. The book is truly a gem of biographical literature.

THE LAND OF CONTRASTS.—By James Fullerton Muirhead. Cloth, 282 pp., \$1.50. Toronto News Co., Toronto. A Canadian edition of this excellent work is most acceptable. The writer spent several years in the United States gathering material for Baedeker's famous guide book. He took notes on the institutions of the country, the habits of the people, and the outstanding features of the democracy in which he found himself. He presents the result as "A Briton's View of his American Kin," and a very interesting view it is. A favorable, yet a discriminating critic, Mr. Muirhead has many shrewd and humorous remarks to

make upon the people who call themselves Americans. The home, society, the press, sports, literature, city life, etc., all go to make up what he calls a land of contrasts. The book should be read in Canada. We need to know the Englishman's point of view in regarding the United States, and this Mr. Muirhead presents to us in an agreeable, amusing and withal instructive style.

THE YELLOW DANGER.—By M. P. Sheil. Paper, 50c. Toronto News Co., Toronto. This book has been put on the Canadian market since the appearance of our last issue, and has taken a great many readers by storm. It is, beyond doubt, the most vigorous and not the least probable, of these books which are intended to forecast the future. "The Yellow Danger" is the over-running of Europe by the Chinese. A peculiarly malignant Chinaman conceives the idea of embroiling the European states, and, then, when they are engaged in a great war, pouring the millions of the yellow race into Europe. The plot is worked out in the most skilful way. The story is more probable and more alluring than "The Final War," which, last year, had such a great sale. England is the rescuer, and the modern Nelson whom she produces in the hour of danger first checks the onslaughts of the European foe, and then finds and uses a remedy to withstand "The Yellow Danger." It is an impressive, curious and even haunting book.

WINDYHAUGH.—By Graham Travers. Cloth, 446 pp.; \$1.50. The Copp. Clark Co., Limited, Toronto. There can be no doubt of the mental acuteness, humor and literary power of the author. But we do not consider this work equal to "Mona MacLean," her previous novel. Wilhelmina Galbraith is an attractive girl and woman, but her religious experiences are so exceptional, and the vicissitudes she meets with are of such an unusual character that an air of unreality seems to pervade the book. It is a good, healthy story though.

CANNON AND CAMERA.—By J. C. Hemment. Cloth, illus., 282 pp., \$2. D. Appleton & Co., New York. This is an ideal gift book. The front cover is beautiful. The book is filled with half-tone, full page illustrations of the sea and land battles of the Spanish-American war in Cuba, with snap shots of camp life and other military scenes. Mr. Hemment was a war artist at the front and has done his work well. As a handsome memorial volume of the war it could hardly be surpassed.

DWELLERS IN GOTHAM.—By Annan Dale. Cloth, 392 pp. William Briggs, Toronto. This is an entertaining and well written story

of modern New York. It depicts the temptations and pleasures of a great city, and the social life of well off people. The tale is a wholesome view of the influence of practical Christianity in modern life.

CALEB WEST, MASTER DIVER.—By F. Hopkinson Smith. Cloth, 378 pp., 75c. illus., \$1.50. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston. A more attractive tale in its way than this has seldom been written. The book has sold extraordinarily well in the United States, but its merits have not been nearly so well recognized in Canada. They should be. Caleb is a fine rugged character, and his final reconciliation with the wife who deceived him is the natural outcome of the story. It is full of life and strong character drawing.

AMONG THE ESQUIMAUX.—By Edward S. Ellis, M.A. Cloth, 317 pp., \$1.25. Penn Publishing Co., Philadelphia. There is plenty of stirring adventure in this tale of a voyage to the northern seas and islands of Canada, and the book is nicely illustrated and printed for the holiday season.

WATER COLOR PAINTING.—By Grace B. Allen. Cloth, illus., 250 pp., \$1.25. Lee & Shepard, Boston. This volume is a practical text-book on the art of painting in water-colors, for the use of amateurs, and of water-color teachers. Taking for granted absolute ignorance on the part of the reader, it explains the technicalities of this branch of art in simple and intelligible language, treating of colors and materials, as well as of flower, landscape, and figure painting in polychrome and monochrome. The author, who has had experience with both public classes and private pupils, aims to convey information in so clear, direct, and minute a way that there shall be no possibility of misconception, and has illustrated the book with chapter-headings and tail-pieces, which serve as a commentary on the text. The washes of color given will prove to be of great value to the amateur, as well as the artist.

THE BOOK OF THE OCEAN.—By Ernest Ingersoll. Cloth, illus., 280 pp., 4to, \$1.50. The Century Co., New York. Probably this book has been specially prepared for the holiday season, and it certainly commends itself on this ground. Profusely illustrated, it conveys almost all the information about the ocean which young people, and older people, too, might want to know. The tides, the building and the sailing of ships, early voyages and Arctic explorations, war ships and naval battles, pirates, yachting, merchant shipping, fishing and other marine industries, sea plants, etc., are all fully dealt with. It is a complete and attractive volume.