

## BOOK BREVITIES

66 **T**HE Sacrifice of the Shannon" (New York, Frederick A. Stokes; Toronto, William Briggs), is the title of a new Canadian story that will be put up in the van of the candidates for popular favor. The author is a young New Brunswicker, W. Albert Hickman, connected with the immigration service of the Dominion Government. "The sacrifice of the Shannon" is a story of the Northumberland Straits, with an ideal hero, a most captivating heroine—a fine type of the Canadian girl—many well-drawn characters, plenty of exciting incidents, and is worked throughout with descriptive power of a high order.

Rev. D. C. Hossack, pastor of the Deer Park Presbyterian Church, Toronto, and one of the strongest and most popular preachers of the City, has placed with William Briggs for publication a volume of addresses entitled "The Gospel of the Home."

An announcement of interest to the trade is the issue this Spring of a new story by Alice Caldwell Hegan, author of "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch." This new story is entitled "Lovey Mary." The extraordinary sale of "Mrs. Wiggs" has prepared a huge constituency for anything new from Mrs. Hegan's pen.

A volume of sermons entitled "The Secret of the Divine Silence," by Rev. Dr. Thomas, of the Jarvis Street Baptist Church, Toronto, is in the press, and will be issued before the close of the present month by William Briggs.

Mr. Conant's new book, "Life in Canada" is just out of the press. It is an attractive looking volume with numerous illustrations. The author paints with vivid colors the glories of rural life in Ontario. He exalts the opportunities that are at hand to the intelligent and industrious farmer, and cites numerous instances of success to prove that in no country under the sun can agriculture be pursued under better conditions than in this Province. Mr. Conant preaches a gospel to which men may well give heed in these days of overcrowding of the cities.

The author of "The Century Cook Book," Mary Ronald, has prepared a new volume entitled "Luncheon: A Cook's Picture Book." It is a guide to the preparation of dainty dishes for dainty meals, and is elaborately illustrated by photographs, each showing some tempting dish, properly garnished, ready to be served. It is published by The Copp, Clark Co.

"Nelson and His Captains," by W. H. Fitchett, LL.D. (The Copp, Clark Co.), is a spirited picture of Nelson and his times. The author has studied his subject thoroughly, with the result that he has produced a book of considerable value. It is an interesting and, in many respects, brilliant tale, from which the youth of to-day might well draw inspiration

The Copp, Clark Co. publish on February 27, "By Dulvercombe Water," a love story of Somersetshire in the year 1685, into which Mr. Harold Vallings weaves many incidents of the Monmouth Rebellion. "Under the White Cockade" is

also to be published in paper on this date. It is a rollicking romance, which carries us back to the days when "Bonnie Prince Charlie" was the darling of the Highlander. It will be a great treat to all lovers of romantic fiction.

The Copp, Clark Co. will publish early in March "The Sheepstealers," by Violet Jacob.

The Copp, Clark Co. publish on February 13 "The Coin of Edward VII.," a new book, by Fergus Hume.

Like the Spring-time, there is always a new volume of Mr. George Adis' fables to look forward to. In his latest collection, under the title of "The Girl Proposition" (The Copp, Clark Co.), he has taken his modern lessons and morals from the Divine Passion. Twenty-six variations tempt the venturesome to dip into his pages, and for those who like these terse and slangy truisms there should be much that is satisfying—at least, until the next volume appears.

"The Circle," by Katherine C. Thurston, is being published as we go to press by The Copp, Clark Co. This is a powerful portrayal of the wide experiences that may be compassed within eight years of a woman's life. In this story Anna Solmy possesses the genius and Mrs. Maxted discovers its existence and furnishes the opportunity to develop it. From the neutral tints of obscurity in which Anna was born, she passes through the graduating shades that existence possesses for a woman. She experiences alternately hope, expectation, fulfilment; then, from the zenith of a wonderful success and an ideal love, she is borne inevitably downward to shadow and darkness. The story does not end here, however, for, after a thorough scourging of her conscience, we find Anna broken away from her life circle and standing in the full light.

The ground work and foundation for the philosophy of Charles Wagner, whose "Simple Life" was so highly praised by President Roosevelt, is the love of nature. His early life was all spent among the Vosges Mountains, and his natural inclination kept him all the time out of doors,



Charles Wagner.

roaming the valleys and climbing the peaks. So the worship of nature became a religion with him—a religion for which he is always seeking proselytes. It is told of him that, once when he was passing a holiday on an island near the French coast, some young people, who had been married by the Mayor of a place in the North, wrote to him to ask him to bless their marriage. They came to the little island for that purpose. When

they had arrived, Mr. Wagner straightway led them to a spot on the seashore called "The Black Coast," and there he blessed them, with the immense ocean stretching before them, the blue sky above, and the wild pinks and immortelles lining the shore, saying that nothing could glorify or sanctify the blessing more than having nature as a witness.