

# Books and Periodicals

## New Books.

### A Successful Canadian Book.

**M**R. F. Clifford Smith, of Montreal, has had the gratifying distinction—rare as it is with our Canadian authors—of having a third edition of his first book placed on the market. Such is the good fortune of his "A Lover in Homespun and Other Stories," published by William Briggs, and which first appeared less than two years ago. Mr. Smith has no reason to complain either of his reception by the reading public or of his treatment by the reviewers. The London *Literary World* declares the stories "compare favorably with similar selections in which Scotch, Welsh, and Irish rural life have been exploited." The success of his first venture certainly must be encouraging to this young Canadian writer, from whom we may confidently expect great things in the future. We notice that the new edition has as frontispiece an excellent portrait of the author.

### The Girl at Cobhurst.

There is a flavor about Frank R. Stockton's work that is inimitable. This new story of his is possessed of that same quality that has made "Rudder Grange" and "The Lady or the Tiger" famous. He has the happy faculty of throwing into relief the salient features of ordinary mortals so that they become interesting individuals indeed, while his quiet humor flows through the whole course of the story, sparkling as it flows. Ralph Haverley is a young man who comes into a large inheritance. Two Matrimonial Schemers,—Miss Panney, a most eccentric old lady, and La Fleur, an artful French cook, undertake to provide him with a suitable helpmeet. The interest of the story, as one or the other gains an advantage and the tide of love ebbs to and fro, is always kept at the highest point. When we say that this is one of Mr. Stockton's most characteristic stories, we do not need to use higher terms of appreciation. It is a charming love story. [Toronto: Copp Clark Co.]

### The Victor's Crowns.

There is no name that stands higher as a preacher than that of Dr. Alexander Maclaren, of Manchester. For method, freshness, scholarship and literary finish he is unexcelled. A volume of sermons from his pen never disappoints. Indeed Dr. Maclaren seems to be steadily improving upon himself, and it is a question if he has ever published anything quite so good as the series of sermons in the volume before us. The title is drawn from the series of seven discourses from the second and third chapters of Revelations with which the volume begins. There are thirty-two sermons in all; and what impresses one in reading them is their uniform high excellence. There is no padding. There are no dull passages. This great preacher is a genius as an expositor. Under his treatment the Scriptures glow with fresh light and glory. He is never drawn away from God's Word in choosing his themes. The Bible is to him an inexhaustible mine, and he is continually surprising you with the treasures which he uncovers. Like all great preachers, Dr. Maclaren has a lively fancy. He is quick to discern resemblances in things, and is a master in the art of speech. His pages

glisten with pictures and emblems, with descriptions and comparisons—windows through which the truth flashes in myriad forms. After reading these sermons, one does not wonder that for over thirty years the people have thronged to listen to this eminent divine. He has always a message, and such a message as human hearts everywhere are hungry to hear. [Toronto: Fleming H. Revell Co.; 316 pages, \$1.25.]

## Periodicals.

**O**UTING for June is a delightful number, filled with the breezy freshness of these fair June days. The bicycle is very prominent, and yachting has more than the usual space. All other departments are generously treated, and the illustrations are up to the usual high standard. The contents are as follows: "Through the Shenandoah Valley Awheel," by Daniel F. Gay; "A June Day on Egg Island, Alaska," by Geo. C. Cantwell; "Bicycling in the Black Forest," by Anson P. Atterbury; "Canadian Golf," by John P. Roche; "A People's Playground," by Ed. W. Sandys; "A Maiden Effort," by the late Kathleen Sullivan; "Black Bats on the Orange Watershed," by Llewellyn H. Johnston; "Bluefishing off Montauk"; and the usual editorials, poems, and records.

While conserving its general literary interests, *McClure's Magazine* for June makes good its title of a War Number. Beginning with an effective patriotic cover and a frontispiece portrait of the commander of the armies, General Miles, the special character of the number is continued by an article by General Fitzhugh Lee, giving the observations and impressions gathered by him as Consul-General of Havana on Cuba, and its people and government, and the war for freedom. This is fully illustrated with portraits of Cuban rulers and leaders and pictures of Cuban scenes and incidents. Stephen Bonsal, writing from Admiral Sampson's flagship, the very centre of operations, tells the story of the movements and adventures of the blockading fleet, and his article is illustrated from photographs taken by him aboard the flagship. L. A. Coolidge tells some heroic stories of Dewey, Sampson, and the other fighting leaders. Joseph Earle Stevens writes of Manila out of his own experience as a resident there. There is still other war matter in the number, and there are an interesting instalment of Anthony Hope's novel, an excellent short story by Octave Thanet, and Charles A. Dana's recollections of his own connection with the Secret Service and of an historic visit to General Sheridan.

"Torpedoes and Torpedo Boats" is the subject of the leading illustrated paper in the June number of *Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly*. B. B. Croffut tells the history and progress of these little engines of destruction, and describes their manufacture, cost and manipulation. "The Working of a Modern Mine," by Jas. Harold Thompson, tells of the life of the miners at work, and is well illustrated. A pretty piece of music is contributed by John Philip Sousa, the "March King," the words to which were written by Hunter MacCulloch. The Disciples of Christ are described by Rev. S. T. Willis, with many good pictures. Henry Clay Colver has an interesting account of the resources of Seattle, Wash., which is illustrated with views of the principal buildings and points of interest. There are numerous other good things, including several short stories, the department for boys and girls, etc.

As its opening feature the June *Ladies Home Journal* interestingly presents a series of characteristic anecdotes of Mrs. Cleveland, illustrated with photographs made especially for the article. With the concluding letters of the series giving "The Inner Experiences of a Cabinet Member's Wife" in Washington the authorship is disclosed and much curious interest gratified. The poetic romance of the Brownings is related by Clifford Howard, in an article on "The Most Beautiful Love Story in Literature," and the Shaker community of Mount Lebanon is described by Madeline S. Bridges. Edward Bok has a vigorous editorial page, while Lilian Bell has crossed the Russian frontier, and writes of her journey, her experiences, and of the people she met in Poland. Mrs. S. T. Rorer writes on soups and on fruits, and the *Journal* architect presents plans for three small churches. Four special pages are devoted to women's gowns, and there are articles on needlework, and nearly every feature of home life is touched upon.

AFRICA is the inexhaustible subject chiefly treated in *The Missionary Review of the World* for June. Frederic Perry Noble, Secretary of the Chicago Congress on Africa, gives an able condensed history of the progress of "Protestant Christianity in