

## BOOKS AND PERIODICALS—Continued.

as well as of the country itself, and accounts to a certain extent, for the present large demand. At the same time, Dr. Smith writes so interestingly of his subject that the reader is charmed and cannot help being delighted. The previous work by the same author, "Chinese Characteristics," is now in its tenth thousand, and the sale is still keeping up.

Two other books bearing on the Chinese crisis, and which have had a large sale, are published by The Revell Co.: "A Cycle of Cathay," by W. A. P. Martin, D.D., LL.D., president of the Imperial Tung Weng College, Peking, China, with 70 illustrations, map and index, 8vo., cloth, \$2, is a book written by a man who got his information at first hand during a residence of nearly 50 years in the country, and is invaluable to anyone who wishes to get a full, dispassionate idea of the country and its people. The other volume is by the famous traveler, Mrs. Isabella Bird Bishop: "Korea and Her Neighbors," fully illustrated, 8vo., cloth, \$2. A narrative of travel, with an account of the recent vicissitudes and present position of the country. "The book is written in a fascinating style. She tells of her travels both in Korea and among the Russians with all the arts of rhetoric and the merit of wonderful directness."

Two new books by Rev. F. B. Meyer are just ready. "The Prophet of Hope," studies in Zechariah, 12mo., cloth, \$1, and "Lovers Always," a wedding souvenir with engraved certificate, 16mo., decorated cloth, 75c. "Lovers Always" is a very dainty book and is admirably suited for ministers presenting to bridal couples. One minister (Rev. C. I. Scofield) says of it: "Nothing more daintily beautiful has come from any press, nor anything from the pen of its gifted author more fragrant with wise spirituality. It is the ideal wedding gift from parent, pastor, friend or husband."

THE GAOH CO.'S NEW BOOKS. W. J. Gage & Co., Limited, have a remarkable list of new books. Of those issued in July, second editions were called for a few days after publication, and the forthcoming books promise to be equally popular.

Boy.—Probably no writer of the present day has caused so much discussion as Miss Corelli. She is much scorned by the critics, and much admired by readers. It is not surprising, therefore, that the first large Canadian edition of her new long story, "Boy," is already sold, and the publishers have a second edition in preparation. Over 50,000 copies have been sold in the United States, and "Boy" has proved equally popular in Great Britain. Miss Corelli is a

favorite author of Queen Victoria, and this new book will doubtless increase her popularity, not alone with our Sovereign, but with the reading public as well, for in "Boy" she is at her best. The characters in the sketch are strangely alive, very true, and full of charm, and the author seldom deviates from this charming style into the ways of scorn which marked her "Sorrows of Satan." In fact, "Boy" is a departure from the lines of her previous works, and proves the wonderful versatility of this popular author.

DEACON BRADBURY.—"Deacon Bradbury" is another book which called for a second edition immediately on publication. The critics say "it resembles David Harum," and, although the plot is quite unlike that popular book, the Deacon is certainly as unique and distinctive a creation as "David Harum." Having explored a new field of fiction, and told his tale with simplicity, earnestness and force, the author has produced an interesting book.

THE GIRL AT THE HALF WAY HOUSE.—To the holiday-maker in the hot Summer season, the half-way house is often an oasis in the desert, for it provides welcome rest and refreshment. "The Girl at the Half-way House," by E. Hough, is a novel which will prove equally refreshing, not alone to the holiday-maker, but also to the business man who can spare but little time for entertainment. Governor Roosevelt, a man of wide experience and the commander of the Rough Riders, said of Mr. Hough's former book: "I do not know when I have read a book I like more than 'The Story of the Cowboy.' I have always been hoping against hope that such a book would be written, but I had about given it up, and there was scant time remaining in which anyone could write it. At last—thank heaven—it has been done. Not only is it to my mind a most fascinating book, but I think it is as valuable a bit of genuine contemporary history as I have yet examined."

Although this is strong praise it can be freely accorded to his new book, "The Girl at the Half-way House." Critics who have read the MSS. have called it an American epic. The author illustrates the strange life of the great western movement, the cowboy on his native range, the wild life of buffalo hunters, the coming of the white-topped emigrant wagons, and the strange days of the early land booms. The free play of primitive forces in the opening of the new land is described with the graphic vigor of an eyewitness; combined with high literary polish seldom coupled in a man possessing Mr. Hough's other attainments. In the dramatic pictures of a battlefield, in the beginning, to the closing pages the author compels the reader's attention;

for nothing has been written on the opening of the West to excel the romance in epic quality and historic interest. Its freshness, vividness, and absorbing interest will appeal to every Canadian reader.

ROBERT ORANGE.—The press was very unanimous in its praise of "The School for Saints," by John Oliver Hobbes, and declared that if the second part was half as good as the first, it would be decidedly welcome. The sequel, "Robert Orange," is just issued, and the English reviewers agree that Mrs. Craigie maintains her high reputation as a master of epigram and narrative comedy. The Star says: "'The School for Saints' was good, but 'Robert Orange,' unlike most sequels, is better. In sheer cunning of style, Mrs. Craigie has surpassed herself in this exquisitely-wrought romance. \* \* \* It is not easy to assess and appraise with frigid justice in the midst of the emotional gratitude aroused by a novel of genius, but this, at least, I know. Few classics have touched and tested me more profoundly than the history of 'Robert Orange.'" The two books represent five years' work of this talented author, and will add to her reputation.

WINEFRED.—Two books, "Winefred," by S. Baring Gould, and "A Daughter of Witches," by Joanna E. Wood, to be issued the end of August, merit a good reception. S. Baring Gould is so well known that his new book will certainly have a large sale. He has endowed his heroine with so charming a personality that she will rival his "Red Spider." Her various adventures on the Devonshire Chalk cliffs and in aristocratic London demonstrate her loyalty to her mother. The character sketches are particularly good and the book teems with thrilling incident.

DAUGHTER OF WITCHES.—Miss Wood's "A Daughter of Witches" is a clever tale by this promising Canadian writer. Her characters have individuality and life. Vashti, the beautiful, cruel "Daughter of Witches," whose love of revenge causes the tragic end of the story, is not an attractive character, but her cousin Mabella is a pleasing contrast. Temperance, Tribbey and Sally are admirable characters, whose characteristic sayings are exceedingly humorous. The book is written in a pleasing narrative style, and the author exhibits an unusual insight into character.

## BUSINESS AT WINNIPEG.

Our Winnipeg correspondent writes, July 25. "The city is crowded with Fair visitors, and business in the book and magazine line has been very good. Messrs. Clark Bros. are now comfortably installed in their new premises, being a portion of the Gault Block."