

## S. R. CROCKETT'S NOVELS

## IONE MARCH: A Woman of Fortune

Price, Cloth, \$1.50. Paper, 75 cts.

Mr. Crockett's versatility is certainly marvellous. Last year he surprised those who thought that his art was confined to the kailyard by writing that capital romance of mediæval Europe, "The Red Axe," and now he comes out with a bright, crisp, up-to-date story of the modern American girl, which is simply charming. Ione March is a strong character. The daughter of a famous American Governor, she has been educated in a European convent, and so combines the energy, independence and adaptability of the American with a dignified refinement which is very pleasing, while her sweet womanliness is only brought out more strongly by her struggles with the world in the effort to earn a living for herself. The plot is well constructed and well carried out. There are also some splendid specimens of English manhood, and a "mean American," who, though playing an important part, does not appear often. But the life of the story is Idalia Judd, the typical American girl, who talks like a streak in the most delightfully expressive "American." She was a very "engaging" young lady, and her frank account of her experiences is most instructive. A trip "across the pond" gave her ample time to bring matters to a climax, and she had even been known to become engaged on a train, "and do you know it's rather nice, though hurried in parts, and you have to cut a good deal of the best dialogue. Yes, siree; you have to make them go the pace. It was with a man named Kenneth Early that I tried it first, when father and I were going straight across lots to San Francisco without stopping. All through the Prairie States he told me how he loved me, and you just believe it passed the time; you can't think. But, alas! love's sleepers are no smoother than elsewhere on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul's; we quarrelled on the platform at Salt Lake all because he would go mousing after a pretty little Mormoness, pretending all the while he was only posting a letter. Now, unfaithfulness is the one thing I can't stand, and I told him so. 'I didn't ask you to love me long, Kenneth,' I said to him, 'only to attend strictly to business while you were about it.' However, he was so heart-broken that I forgave him just before we got to Digger City, and at Sacramento I said I'd be his new-found sister, but he said he wasn't annexing any more sisters, and so we parted forever."—*Mail and Empire*.

## The Red Axe

A Tale of the German Robber Barons. With 26 illustrations by Frank Richards  
Cloth, \$1.50; Paper, 75 cts.

The Red Axe is the symbol of the state executioner or headsman, whose office in the middle ages was hereditary, and endowed with certain privileges. The tale opens with the interposition of the little son of the executioner to save the life of a baby girl who is about to be thrown to bloodhounds, which he effects by threatening to take his own life if this be done. From this the author weaves a beautiful life romance in the midst of gruesome surroundings, and traces the growing love of the little playmate Helen and the son of the headsman, Hugo Gottfried, up to the climax in which Helen is tried for witchcraft before a rejected suitor, and iniquitously condemned to death in spite of the indignation of the people, while Hugo, who has succeeded his father as hereditary executioner, is ordered to carry out the sentence under the threat of a still worse fate for Helen if he refuses. He is compelled to consent, and Helen is brought forward for execution. "Then my love kissed me once as though she had been saying good-night in the Red Tower, simply and sweetly like a child, and laid her head down on the block as on the white pillow of her bed." What happened after that we recommend our readers to find out for themselves.—*Quebec Telegraph*.

## The Men of the Moss-Hags

Being a History of Adventure taken from the Papers of William Gordon of Earlstoun, in Galloway, and told over again by S. R. CROCKETT.  
Price, Paper, 75 cts. Cloth, \$1.25.

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