

A story of the old days,—more than a century ago,—of privateering and smuggling is John Oxenham's, **Carette of Sark**. (The Copp, Clark Company, Toronto, 381 pages, \$1.25). Sark, of course, is the little Channel Island of that name, with its simple, hardy people, half English, half French. Young Philip Carré, the hero of the tale, had his full share of adventure by sea and land; but through it all, he kept steadily to his purpose,—and accomplished it in the end,—of winning Carette, the beautiful daughter of the daring smuggler, Le Marchant. The reader will linger over the chapters that tell of the festivities on midsummer eve, followed by Riding Day, when the maid who agrees to a young man's request that she ride with him on the same horse is understood to give her consent to share a still longer journey.

Heroism is not a matter of century, race, or time of life. So, evidently, thinks Mr. Alfred H. Miles, the writer of **A Book of Heroes: Boys and Men**. (Hutchinson & Co., London, 376 pages, 8 full page illustrations, \$1.50.) He gives us the old favorites, such as, Alfred the Great, the Duke of Wellington, Nelson, Havelock, Franklin, and the rest, but, interspersed with these, and indeed making up the greater part of the book, are new names and new exploits. The Boer is listed, as well as the Briton; Black and Yellow, from Africa and from China; the Alaskan "Jink," alongside his white-faced brother. The volume is one, which, of course, the boys will read; but a man's pulses will beat all the faster from its perusal; and boy and man will be the better and the braver for the noble deeds here recorded.

It is difficult fitly to characterize in a brief paragraph, Dr. Samuel M. Zwemer's, **Islam: A Challenge to Faith**. (Student Volunteer Movement for Foreign Missions, New York, 295 pages, maps, charts, and half-tone illustrations, \$1.00 cloth, 35c. paper.) It is primarily the throwing down of the gauntlet, on behalf of Mohammedanism, to the Christian world, and consists of a thoroughly wrought-out treatise on the origin and sources of Islam, its founder, its spread, its faith, its practice, its ethics, divisions, disintegration and reform, present position, and the success and non-success of missions to Moslems. Dr. Zwemer has knowledge at first hand, from his missionary labors in Arabia. His bibliography of the subject, of twelve pages, shows the width of his research. His style is clear and without exaggeration. It is a book for the intelligent general reader, as well as for the students for whom, in the first instance, it was written; and should awake some adequate response to the challenge to the hardest problem that Christianity has had to face, the evangelization of Mohammedan lands.

One of the characteristic words in the Fourth Gospel is "signs." It is by this name that John loves to designate our Lord's miracles. For to his mind they point to something beyond themselves; they reveal the nature of the One who wrought them. John reasons back from what Christ does to what He is. Such and such wonderful effects are produced,—what, he asks, is the nature of the power that has brought them to pass? It is the merit of, **The Christ from Without and Within: A Study of the Gospel by St. John**,

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