

has long enjoyed the reputation of being one of the strongest and most popular preachers in Toronto. His retirement from the active ministry of the Jarvis street church, which takes effect in April next, after 21 years of continued service, is regarded by the congregation with the deepest regret. His volume of sermons will doubtless have many appreciative readers.

The keen wit and sound sense of the "Letters From a Self-Made Merchant to His Son" are, to use a trite phrase, "all the talk" these days. The book is having a sale that promises to outdistance most, if not all, of its rivals this season. No one can read a page of the book without being caught at once by its cleverness, its brilliancy, and the reader makes the best sort of advertiser, for he cannot help talking of it to his friends. Merchants are purchasing this book in quantity to give to their clerks, and no gift could promise better returns. The book is bristling with wise maxims, pointed with humor altogether irresistible. The bookseller who can't sell 25 to 100 copies of this clever book by showing it to his customers and giving them a taste of its contents should seriously wonder if he hasn't missed his calling.

William Briggs has secured the Canadian market for General Dewet's story of the Boer War, of which he was himself by far the most conspicuous and picturesque figure. The volume comprises 500 pages, with a splendid frontispiece portrait of the author by John S. Sargent, plans, maps, etc. It will sell here at \$2.00. The book is said to present the plain, bluff, unvarnished story of General Dewet's experiences and doings in the great struggle which took place between the Boer and the Briton. The simplicity of the narration, its sincerity, its soldierly fairness and its unconscious eloquence will make the book appeal to all who enjoy a story of action; while the light it throws upon military operations and battles hitherto known only from the English viewpoint gives it a genuine historical value. This is by far the most interesting volume on the war yet issued.

William Briggs announces the issue about December 10 of a booklet of unique interest, entitled "Canadian Singers and Their Songs." It will present 20 superior half-tone portraits of leading Canadian poets, and accompanying each a poem in fac-simile of the author's own hand. The whole will be printed on fine plate paper and will be attractively bound, with the title embossed in red and gold. A stout manila envelope ready for mailing will enclose each copy, a great convenience to the bookseller as well as the purchaser. The trade will do well to secure a supply early, as there is sure to be a popular demand for this pretty little souvenir. Among the poets represented are: William Wilfred Campbell, Dr. Drummond, Chas. G. D. Roberts, Frederick George Scott, Dr. Goldwin Smith, Dr. Rand, Charles Mair, "The Khan," Ethelwyn Wetherald, Mrs. Jean Blewett, E. Pauline Johnson, Mrs. Harrison ("Seranus") and others.

THE HISTORICAL DRAMA "TECUMSEH."

IN the November number of The British Empire Review a page and a half is occupied with a commendatory review of Mr. Mair's drama, "Tecumseh," and the miscellaneous poems which are included with the new edition of it. Of the drama, it remarks that "it is most interesting as a collection of vigorous character sketches, portraying for us not only the genuine loyalists of the day and the newly-independent American of a century since, but, above all, the aboriginal Indian, with his savage instincts and his gross superstitions, but also with all his natural nobleness of character, his generosity, bravery and purity of life. . . . The author has shown true power in his drawing and contrast of characters, his subject is interesting as dealing with a (to us) little known, but vital and important, historical episode, and in very many cases the verse rises to a high level of merit."

It is to be hoped the trade will keep this thoroughly Canadian book well before their patrons during the coming Christmas season. Mr. Mair excels in the expression of patriotic sentiments. The following passage from General Brock's speeches will serve to illustrate:

"BROCK. You have no faith! Then take a creed from me!
For I believe in Britain's Empire, and
In Canada, its true and loyal son,
Who yet shall rise to greatness, and shall stand
At England's shoulder helping her to guard
True liberty throughout a faithless world
Here is a creed for arsenals and camps,
For hearts and heads that seek their country's good.
So, go at once, and meditate on it!"

"But odds he not
In numbers only, but in spirit too—
Witness the might of England's little isle!
And what made England great will keep her so—
The free soul and the valour of her sons,
And what exalts her will sustain you now
If you contain her courage and her faith."

"Our death may build into our country's life
And failing this, 'twere better still to die
Than live the breathing spoils of infamy.
Then forward for our cause and Canada!
Forward for Britain's Empire—peerless arch
Of Freedom's raising, whose majestic span
Is axis to the world! On, on, my friends!
The task our country sets must we perform—
Wring peace from war, or perish in its storm!"

Such lines as these, written almost 20 years ago, are faithful expressions of sentiment in Canada to-day.

IMPORTANT LITERARY WEDDING.

The Copp, Clark Company announce the marriage of "Barbara Ladd" and "Donovan Pasha," which will take place in "The Heart of the Ancient Wood" among "The Kindred of the Wild." The bride will be attended by "Cecilia" as maid of honor, while the groom will be supported by "Belshazzar," his best man. The bride will carry a large bunch of "Flower o' the Corn." A unique musical entertainment will be rendered by "The Little White Bird," assisted by "A Speckled Bird." The bride has been made happy by "The Confessions of a Wife," and "The Right of Way" has been given. Contrary to the usual custom, however, the bride will not be given away, but may be found with the other participants of the affair at all the bookstores.

CHRISTMAS NUMBERS.

Canadian Magazine—Distinctly national in tone, with a handsome emblematic cover. It contains six good stories by Canadian authors and many articles of general interest.

Delineator—A large number, full of good things, chiefly relating to the woman and the household.

Everybody's—The December number contains many excellent stories, some of which are beautifully illustrated in colors.

Frank Leslie's—A double number, redolent of Christmas. The stories are absorbing and numerous, and the illustrations are excellently executed.

The Book Lover—For people of æsthetic literary tastes, The Book Lover of New York is a welcome arrival. It is a fine example of the typographic art and its contents appeal to every bibliophile. Among its features may be noted an illustrated paper on book-plates and a series of reviews of well-known books by their own authors.

From R. H. Russell, of New York, comes a picture of Lord Roberts mounted on his white charger, quite a striking picture, oddly executed and one which would look well in any bookseller's window.