

BOOK REVIEWS.

JOHN SAINT JOHN AND ANNA GREY.—A Romance of Old New Brunswick, by Mrs. Margaret Gill Currie. Toronto: Printed for the author by Wm. Briggs. This romance, briefly told, runs as follows: Anna Grey, the daughter of a Virginia loyalist, is beloved by John St. John, the son of her father's old friend and fellow-soldier, but ambition leads her to marry Marmaduke Tempest, heir to an English barony. Tempest takes his wife home to England, and abandons her to insult and ill-treatment from his mother and sisters. An attempt that the unhappy bride makes to escape results in her confinement in a lunatic asylum, where she passes nine years. Meanwhile, in the old home in New Brunswick, the father and three sisters of John St. John have died, leaving him to comfort his own mother and Anna's. He is constant to his old love, but when the news of her sufferings and imprisonment reaches him he is dying, and can only commit the task of rescuing her to two old friends. These friends fulfil the trust, and Anna, who has long and bitterly repented of her girlish coquetry and wilfulness, returns to New Brunswick, to live a long life of devotion to others, and finally is laid to rest by the side of her faithful lover.

Such is the outline of the story which is here expanded into over three thousand lines of verse. It is a pity that the writer did not try to put it into prose, for most people hesitate to begin a long narrative poem. Moreover, while considerable ability in story-telling, and some skill in the use of the different metres are shown in this volume, it is hard to find any lines that rise above the commonplace. Facility in running a story into moulds of measured lines, with adornments of conventional epithets, is a convenient acquirement when one wishes to be mildly amusing, but it is a mistake to attempt to use it seriously.

The clear print and pretty cover of the book do credit to its publisher, William Briggs, of Toronto.

THE MINERAL WEALTH OF CANADA; A Guide for Students of Economic Geology, by Arthur B. Willmott, M. A., B. Sc., Professor of Natural Science, McMaster University, formerly assistant in Mineralogy, Harvard University. Pages 201; cloth. Toronto: Wm. Briggs, publisher. This book contains a great deal of information on the mineral products of Canada, compiled from the reports of the Geological Survey and other sources. To make the subject clear to the general reader, there is an introductory chapter for the benefit of those who have had no preliminary training in geology. Then follows a systematic description of our economic minerals, with their qualities, uses, and where they are found. At the end of each chapter those books are cited where the reader may obtain fuller information. The work will prove a valuable compendium for teachers and other students.

KERR'S BOOK-KEEPING, second edition, by S. Kerr, Principal of the St. John Business College. Price \$1.00. There are several new features to this excellent textbook, the most important of which is that devoted to joint-stock company book-keeping. Forms of the books

required are given, and the methods of opening and closing such books are presented in full.

MACMILLAN'S RECITATION BOOKS.—This is a series, consisting of two dozen, of booklets containing short and simple poems from the best English poets, designed to furnish supplementary reading to the pupils of Standards I.-VII. The extracts are accompanied by notes containing directions to secure the proper reading, and explanations of passages of any difficulty. In another column will be found an example of one of these lessons for Grade I. They are published by Macmillan & Co., London, and the price is one penny, or two-pence, according to size.

SELECTIONS FROM WORDSWORTH, edited, with introduction and notes, by W. T. Webb, A. M. Pages 215; price 2s. 6d. Published by Macmillan & Co., London. This book, though published for students in the Indian Colleges, will do very well for general students elsewhere. It contains a lengthy introduction on Wordsworth's life and works, followed by selections of pieces belonging principally to the period between the poet's settlement at Alfoxden and his removal to Allan Bank. More than half the text is taken up with notes, which feature, though excellent, may occur to the reader as too little of the poet and too much of the editor.

OCTOBER MAGAZINES.

The Living Age, which has appeared with never-failing regularity for nearly two generations, reflects as faithfully as ever the age in which we live. The present will prove an exceptionally good time to subscribe for this unique magazine, for the publishers announce that to all new subscribers for the year 1898, the weekly numbers of 1897, issued after the receipt of their subscriptions, will be sent free. Send \$6.00 to *The Living Age Co.*, Boston, at once, and receive the benefit of this generous offer.... In Universities and the Higher Education of Women, Mr. Oscar Browning, of Cambridge University, gives an interesting account, in the *October Forum*, of the proceedings at that university when the vote was taken which refused the degree of B. A. to women. With regard to the education of men and women at the same institutions of learning, Mr. Browning argues that if the courses at the university are designed with the special view of meeting the men's requirements, they cannot possibly be suitable in every respect for women, and *vice versa*.... The *Chautauquan* for October contains *Are Women Hurting the Chances of Men in Business*, *Luther's Influence on Literature*, and other interesting articles. Information regarding the magazine and the C. L. S. C. Work may be obtained by application to the publisher, Dr. Theodore L. Flood, Meadville, Pa.... *McClure's Magazine* for October has an article *The Oldest Record of Christ's Life*.... In the *Ladies' Home Journal* William George Jordan writes on *The Wonders of the World's Waste*, in which he shows how modern science has taken the hundred and one things that were formerly thrown away as useless and turned them to practical uses.... In *Free-Hand Drawing in Education*, H. G. Fritz discusses in the *Popular Science Monthly* the importance of this study, and calls attention to the unsatisfactory way in which it is usually taught.... *St. Nicholas* for October contains many stories and sketches for the casual reader, as well as for children. There is a good sketch of the education of a deaf and blind boy.... An excellent article in the *Century* is *What is an Aurora?* with telescopic photographs and diagrams.... The *October Atlantic* is the fortieth anniversary number of the greatest literary American magazine. In an article on the *Training of Teachers*, by Frederick Burk, he says: "At present one thing is critically needed: * * * The work of the schools demands teachers of discretionary intelligence and the power of suspended judgment, able to deal with working hypotheses."