



BOOK BREVITIES



AMONG the best-selling books of the season is Robert W. Chambers' novel, "The Maids of Paradise." Mr. Chambers has now attained a firm position in the ranks of popular authors, and his latest book detracts in no measure from his earlier successes. The scene of the story is laid in an idyllic French village during the period of the Franco-Prussian War, and the main themes are love and fighting. (The Book Supply Co., Toronto. Price, \$1.50)

The Copp, Clark Co., Limited, have published an illustrated descriptive catalogue of their books, which is one of the daintiest and best executed announcement catalogues we have seen. Pictures of authors and sample illustrations from their books are interspersed through its pages.

Arthur Stringer, the talented young Canadian poet, has achieved a remarkable success with his first novel, "The Silver Poppy." It has satisfied the critics on every hand, and warm words have been spoken in its praise. The heroine is a novelty in literature, being an anomaly, to wit, a distinguished authoress, and yet not a writer. About this "yellow vampire," as she has been called, Mr. Stringer has woven a clever romance, not a page of which lacks interest. (William Briggs. Price, \$1.25).

The Book Supply Co. of Toronto are the publishers of a considerable number of the leading Fall books. Their list includes Frank Stockton's last novel, "The Captain's Toll Gate," "The Heart of Hyacinth," an exquisite Japanese love story, by Onoto Watanna; "Judith of the Plains," by Marie Munroe; "Judgment," by Alice Brown; "The Relentless City," by E. F. Benson, a book which has had remarkable sales in England, and "Hesper," by Hamlin Garland.

The relations existing between Lord Nelson and Lady Hamilton have frequently afforded novelists material for their books, but it is doubtful if any author has made quite as good use of this historic love story as Mr. Roland B. Mulneux, who follows this theme in his "Vice Admiral of the Blue." (Copp, Clark Co. Price, \$1.25)

Canadians take no inconsiderable pride in the work of their novelists, and when these novelists stay at home and write in Canada, they are thought all the more of. Especially is this the case with Mr. Albert R. Carman, of Montreal, whose latest book, "The Pensionnaires," is meeting with a well-deserved success. The scene of "The Pensionnaires" is laid in Europe, as the name would suggest. The story itself is more or less psychological in character, though the psychology does not obtrude itself unduly. The book is exceedingly well written from a literary standpoint, and the love story told in its pages is bound to charm. (William Briggs. Price, \$1.25)

The Copp, Clark Co., Limited, Toronto, are exceptionally strong this year in gift books. They have a number of exquisite specimens of bookmaking, both from the printer's and artist's standpoint. Notably among these is the

last story of Paul Leicester Ford, "A Checked Love Affair." The cover decorations, the borders and the illustrations are beautifully executed and are the work of distinguished artists. Another handsome volume is "Old Quebec: The Fortress of New France," by Sir Gilbert Parker and Mr. Claude Bryan. This book appeals strongly to Canadians. "Monsigny," by Justus Miles Forman, is a third book, notable for its handsome illustrations.

The legend, according to which King Robert of Sicily, an arrogant monarch, lost his throne through divine intervention, has been made the basis of a new romantic novel by Justin Huntley McCarthy, with the title of "The Proud Prince." Mr. McCarthy introduces a beautiful woman into his plot, through whose intervention King Robert is changed in heart and restored to his heritage. (The Book Supply Co. Price, \$1.50).

Adventure of a pure and undiluted nature is to be found in Cyrus Townsend Brady's latest novel, "Sir Henry Morgan, Buccaneer." Sir Henry, it will be remembered was one of the most notorious pirates who ever sailed the Spanish Main, and Mr. Brady has made him the central figure in his romance. (Copp, Clark Co. Price, \$1.50).

T. Nelson & Sons, of London, have always been renowned for their children's books, and their 1908 list is quite up to the standard of previous years. A few of their choicest picture books have reached "Bookseller and Stationer." They include "The A. B. C. of Games and Toys," "The Book of Horses," "Our Dogs," "An Alphabet of Nations" and "The Doll House." These are all beautifully illustrated, with full page pictures in colors, sure to charm the heart of any child. The prices are ranged to suit all tastes.

The Snafield Publishing Co., of Akron, Ohio., issue "Aesop's Fables in Rhyme for Children," by Richardson D. White and Margaret D. Longley. This is a large, handsomely illustrated picturebook, the pictures being unique of their kind and unlike the usual run of such illustrations.

A trio of strong novels issued by The Copp, Clark Co. are "Doctor Xavier," by Max Pemberton, "The Long Night," by Stanley J. Weyman, and "The Heart of Rome," by F. Marion Crawford. These authors need no introduction, and their names guarantee the excellence of their work. In the three novels mentioned each author is found at his best.

The thousands of readers who were charmed with Booth Farkington's "Gentleman from Indiana" and "Monsieur Beaucaire" have a treat in store for them in the sparkling romance, entitled "Cherry," which The Book Supply Co. of Toronto are publishing in a handsome edition for the Christmas trade. It is a sprightly and clever book with some admirable character sketches. (Price, \$1.25).

W. W. Jacobs, the inimitable delineator of the sailor man, continues to delight everyone with his humorous sketches in "Old Craft," his latest book. A new illustrated edition of his "Many Cargoes" is also on the market. (Copp, Clark Co.)

"The Ploughshare and the Sword" is a new Canadian story by Ernest Henham. It centres about the first occupation of Old Quebec two hundred years before the country came into possession of the British. (Copp, Clark Co. Price, \$1.25)