

Book Reviews.

THE SACHEL SCHOOL ATLAS: forty Maps, 40 pp., price 20 cents. J. G. Cloke, 10 James St. S.

We have no hesitation in pronouncing this little atlas the best of the kind we have yet seen. The maps which are full page, embrace the hemispheres, continents and principal countries with extra ones in many cases to show the physical features. Included in the atlas is a diagram illustrating the seasons and tides.

No. 5 JOHN STREET, by Richard Whiteing William Briggs, Toronto, Publisher. Cloth \$1.00, paper 50c For sale at Eastwood's.

In No. 5 John Street, Mr. Whiteing has given us a book of great strength, which exhibits the rare combination of a book with a purpose and a work of art. The scene is laid in London, and by giving the experiences of a man of wealth and high rank, who lives for a time in the slums, supporting himself by the labor of his hands, Mr. Whiteing lifts the veil from lives of the poor and reveals them surrounded by sin and vice, toil and suffering; without ambition, hope, or self-respect, their chief concern "to glide through the day with the smallest possible expenditure of body or mind."

His period of probation ended, the hero returns to his wonted life among the "idle rich," who take all their enjoyments as a matter of course and even complain of the necessity of enjoying themselves. Many of their comforts they never fully appreciate because they have never felt the want of them. The need is "not to put Christopher Sly into the Duke's chamber but the Duke into Christopher Sly's."

Remarkably real and true to life are his pictures of the Cockney world and the extravagance and luxury of the rich. But the ravings of the socialist against wealth meet only with ridicule at his hands. The rather does he depict the grim humor found among the poor and the indifference with which they often meet misfortune.

The author displays dramatic skill and power. He shows in his writing earnestness and sympathy, dignity and want of pretence. He carries out his purpose, but he also gives to the book the merits of a novel. It is filled with human nature, and contains all the details essential to a story of real life. He can portray accurately the workings of the mind of the tramp and the millionaire. Although seeing difficulties of social reforms, he recognises the necessity of something being done, when he makes the rough flower-girl plead before the Princess of Wales, not for herself indeed, but for the children, until they have

some strength to fight the battles of life themselves. "Don't give no more dinners to us grown-ups. We're done. But make a lor about the young 'uns. There's your chance. Make a lor to make their fathers and mothers send 'em to school. Make a lor to give 'em two plates o' meat a week—never mind the oranges—and to keep their pore little feet out o' the wet. Make a lor so as they shan't 'it their little sisters—leastways when they ain't two of a size, and the gal can't spar."

WITH KITCHENER TO KHARTUM, by G. W. Stevens: with maps, handsome cloth binding. price 50 cents: J. G. Cloke.

"With Kitchener to Khartum," is the title of a book which has brought to its author Mr. G. W. Stevens, the well-known war correspondent, a marked degree of literary distinction. The style of the book throughout is intensely interesting, but it never borders on the sensational, and, while in one or two places the form of expression might have been improved, it nevertheless strikes the reader forcibly as a work of great literary merit. Unconsciously the reader gains a knowledge of the Soudan and its condition generally, besides learning the history of the doings of the British Army in Egypt since 1884. Character is exceedingly well represented, especially in the case of Sirdar. But it is in scene-painting that Mr. Stevens' powers of description appear to their fullest advantage as the chapters on the battle of Omdurman and funeral of General Gordon clearly prove. While highly instructive and profitable for the older reader, it is suitable for the young as well, being written in a language, clear, and easy to understand; all can read it with profit as well as enjoyment.

Hainan says Carter's Pills are good but they can't touch Carter's Liniment.

A meeting to organize a Y. M. C. A. was called, to which ladies only were invited.

A useful practice is being carried on by some of the students of meeting several times a week and discussing the Literature selections. In another case Psychology is taken up. The various opinions expressed at these small gatherings are proving of considerable benefit to those taking part.