

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS—Continued.

springs the story, for the legality of the marriage is denied by their Church and trouble ensues. The remarkable feature of the novel lies in the fact that since the book went to press the situation upon which it is based has been repeated in every detail in the now celebrated Delphi marriage case. The book should have a very large sale.

Dr. Barry's novel, "The Wizard's Knot," is a powerful and splendidly written story—the best that this strong writer has yet published. It is a story of Ireland, and such a story as none but an Irishman, deep in the heart-knowledge of his countrymen, could have written. Words cannot briefly describe the pathos, the depth and the witchery of the tale, so full is it of the warm and romantic imagery of the Irish nature. It is a great book. No story like it has been written in recent years, and no one has so truly sounded the deeper notes of the Irish peasant character as has Dr. Barry in this book. The reviews of English critics who have read the novel stamp it as a novel of the highest type, and as such it will be welcomed by Canadian readers.

"The Seven Houses" is the name of Hamilton Drummond's new book, which will shortly be issued by The Publishers' Syndicate. Mr. Drummond may be congratulated on this work, which is a romantic novel of the best type. He has a sure touch, good control of his characters, a wealth of adventure, and, above all, a force in his descriptions which marks the master-hand. His plot, too, based as it is on the horoscope of an astrologer, is unique and attractive, and his new book will confirm his reputation as the leading writer of the day in the field of romantic fiction.

"Monsieur Beaucaire," that most delightful of short novels, has run through its first Canadian edition and the second is now ready for the market. Booth Tarkington's charming story has already reached a sale of 60,000 in the United States, and its sale is increasing in Canada as each week goes by. The Canadian edition is issued by The Publishers' Syndicate.

"The Love Letters of Dorothy Osborne to Sir William Temple," were recently issued in Canada by The Publishers' Syndicate, and are selling rapidly. They are recognized as among the finest specimens of epistolary literature in the language, and should be seen by every lover of good style and charming writing.

The Publishers' Syndicate may be said to issue more fine nature books than any house in Canada, and their list, as published in this issue, is worth studying.

MORANG'S EDUCATIONAL BOOKS.

Allusion has already been made to the school and college text-books issued by Morang & Co. for use in Canadian institutions. These are remarkable in more than

one respect. They are, in the first place, excellent examples of bookmaking in regard to clear type, illustration, paper and neat binding. Secondly, while not bearing the look of cheap books they sell at low figures. Then, they are new books, that is, embody the latest scholarship imparted by names well known in the literary and educational world.

Among the most recent issues in the classical series are an edition of "Cornelius Nepos," edited by Dr. Roberts, with maps, illustrations, notes and exercises, etc. (Cloth, 170 pp. 35c.) An edition of the first book of "Virgil's Aeneid," edited by P. Sandford, M.A., with notes, vocabulary, illustrations, etc., has also been issued at 35c. The fourth and fifth books of "Caesar's Gallic War," edited by St. J. B. Wynne Willson, M.A., with retranslation exercises by W. L. Grant, M.A., of Upper Canada College is another new issue in the series.

In the English literature series, editions of Scott's Lay, with illustrations, etc. and notes by W. J. Rolfe, Litt. D.; two plays of Shakespeare; namely, "The Merchant of Venice" and "Richard II.," edited by H. L. Withers, B.A., and C. H. Herford, Litt. D. respectively, have also been lately published.

Those who wish to bring these text-books to the attention of teachers and trustees can have specimen copies sent free by applying to the publishers, who have also lists and other explanatory data which will be of service to the dealer.

THE MONTREAL TRADE.

FROM BOOKSELLERS AND STATIONERS' Special Correspondent.

MONTREAL, April 3.

BUSINESS in books is quiet and has been so every day of the past month. Inactivity is generally the outstanding feature of the book trade in March and April, but it seems to be accentuated this year. This is partly due to the paucity of new fast-selling goods. There has been no popular work for the seekers of new books during the past three months. As a result interest is reviving in the publications that have been tried and tested in previous seasons. McMillan's "Elizabeth and Her German Garden" is just one of these works. It takes the place of a new book with the bookseller, for, if it is not recommendable because it is new, its literary excellencies and ability to interest can be lauded up to the selling point. It is going principally in the 50-cent edition, but there is a noticeable call for the \$1.75 and \$2.50 editions. "A Solitary Summer," by the same author also finds some takers.

"The Englishwoman's Love Letters" is still prominently to the fore and it is the general opinion of the bookselling public it is meeting with all the success it deserves. But now its partner comes forth. Mr. Chapman has imported a number of copies of "An Englishman's Love Letters," and the sale of this book will test the impression, favorable or unfavorable, that its predecessor has left upon the book-lover's mind. It is a dainty little 75-cent book, bound in vellum with a pink ribbon attachment. Evidently "he" did not write as much as "she."

Among other books that are still popular are "The Duke," "The Cardinal's

Rose" and "The Mantle of Elijah." "Eben Holden" maintains a strong hold on the trade yet. "L'Aiglon" is being read by the theatre-going public, preparatory to the coming of the famous Bernhardt. It is being handled in both French and English editions.

The paper books are "The Inimitable Mrs. Massingham," by Herbert Compton (colonial edition), "The Devil's Plough," by Anna Farquhar (Copp, Clark & Co.), and "The Third Floor," by Mrs. Dudeney (Gage & Co.)

But the new cloth books are perhaps more important. There is "Irene Petrie, Missionary to Kashmir," by Mrs. Ashley Carus-Wilson (Fleming H. Revell); "Babs, The Impossible," by Sarah Grand, "Miss Clyde," by Julien Gordon (Appleton's), and "The Visits of Elizabeth," by Elinor Glyn (John Lane, New York.) Stephen Phillips' works are gradually increasing in sale with literary people, and dealers can afford to push them while the prices are high. "Herod" is at present being sold for \$1.50.

Owing to the dearth of fast-selling 75-cent books, booksellers are importing some special lines to keep the book trade moving. F. E. Grafton & Sons have a good cloth edition, published by the American News Co., which retails at 75 cents and shows exceptionally good value. The titles are all of the best including, "Barabbas," "Dash for a Throne," "Sherlock Holmes," "A Gentleman of France," and other names bearing a prestige.

Many book publishers, both Canadian and English, have congregated in the city during the last few days. This is their regular spring trip. As a result, Mr. Brophy, of the Montreal News Co., will soon have some announcements to make to the trade in regard to forthcoming books.

Mr. Elbert Hubbard, of East Aurora, N.Y., the founder of the famous Roycroft School, gave an interesting lecture in Kari Hall on the evening of March 22. The lecture was not well attended, yet it was pleasing and eminently instructive. An exhibition of the Roycrofters' works was afterwards held in Chapman's bookstore, when many visitors had the pleasure of viewing the collection. It included a terra cotta bust of Mr. Hubbard, done by one of his pupils and presented to Mrs. Hubbard.

Mr. Chapman reports that he has already experienced quite a demand for Baedeker's Guide Books to Europe. The inquiries are coming principally from Toronto and the West. Mr. Chapman has worked up quite a trade in these works, and has shown what a retailer can do in the way of handling a Canadian agency.

Price-cutting in the retail stores is now being confined to a few of the leading books. Mutual jealousy among the retailers, rather than departmental competition, seems to be the root of the evil.

W. Drysdale & Co. will move in a week or two from their present quarters to more commodious premises at the corner of Drummond and St. Catharine streets. F. E. Grafton & Sons are busy resettling in their renovated store on St. James street, where their customers will find them snugly housed.

E. H. C.

April 3, 1901.

The well-known firm of T. N. Hibben & Co. are about to start a paper-box factory in Victoria, B.C. The machinery has already arrived.