

way the author's previous admirable work on "The Selkirk Settlers in Real Life," and will undoubtedly have a large sale.

Hon. J. D. Edgar's book on Ottawa, just published by George N. Morang, will take a prominent place among the books of the year. It is beautifully gotten up, but its exterior is the least part of its excellence. The volume bears evidence of careful research and sound judgment in the arrangement of facts, while its literary style is charming and unexceptionable. An important feature is its very comprehensive and carefully edited index. This adds to its value as a book of reference in no ordinary degree.

With the opening of the season, Hall Caine's much criticised book, "The Christian," seems to have taken a fresh start. There is, of course, always a new stratum of readers and bookbuyers to be reached, and the tendency of a book like "The Christian" is to advertise itself. The talk about a book filters down from one circle to another till at last curiosity is aroused, and even the masses want to read it, and to judge for themselves as to its quality. This point appears to have been reached with regard to "The Christian." It is yet a seller, and will remain so.

Mr. Morang's recent issue of "A Kentucky Cardinal" and "Aftermath," the two works bound together in one volume, is a good addition to his already-attractive list. The paper edition is bright and metropolitan looking, and will be a "fetching" addition on anybody's counter. This work, by James Lane Allen, the author of "The Choir Invisible," has already demonstrated its quality by the popular run it had in the United States and England. Critics tell us that as a work of literary art and a charming story, it is better even than the work on which James Lane Allen's fame principally rests.

The poem which Dr. W. H. Drummond, author of "The Habitant," has written for Mr. Morang's Midsummer Annual, "Our Lady of the Sunshine," to be published next month, is said to be equal to anything that this able and striking writer has yet produced. It will, no doubt, excite great interest, not only in Montreal, where Dr. Drummond is so well known, but throughout Quebec. But Dr. Drummond's book has already made him famous in both hemispheres. Louis Frechette passes on to this new writer the title which, years ago, Longfellow conferred upon himself, "the pathfinder of a new land of song." Mr. Morang is to be congratulated on having secured for his annual so popular a contributor.

Rev. John McDougall, the well-known Methodist Missionary, whose services to the Government in their dealings with the Indians of our North-West have been of the greatest value, and who knows the West probably as thoroughly as any man living, has completed a third volume in the series that relate his experiences on the far western plains. The manuscript is now in the hands of the publisher, William Briggs, and the book will be published next fall. Mr. J. E. Laughlin has been engaged to illustrate it. The author's previous volumes, "Forest, Lake and Prairie," and "Saddle, Sled and Snowshoe," have been very popular, and make great reading for Canadian boys.

The Misses K. M. and R. Lizars, already favorably known to the reading public, have completed a work of fiction which is to be published by George N. Morang. The subject of the sketch, which is full of literary ability and humor, is life in a Canadian country town parish. It is understood that its quality is such that it cannot fail to take a place in Canadian literature, and a qualified critic, who has read the manuscript, predicts for it a popular success of no common order. The very favorable comments on the previous work of these accomplished ladies make it natural that there should be considerable expectancy when it is known that they have ventured into a new field of authorship.

There is a good portrait of James Lane Allen in the "Bookman's Literary Year-Book" (Morang) which shows him to be a man of middle age, with a strong, earnest face, and expressive, kindly eyes. The whole aspect of the countenance indicates resolution and a well-balanced nature. The biographical particulars, which accompany the picture, are very interesting, and include the following remarks:—

"The qualities which characterize his work are also characteristic of the man—a sensitive delicacy and vigorous vitality, a strong love and nature, especially in Kentucky. Mr. Allen was born on a farm near Lexington, in the very heart of the blue grass region of Kentucky, where the Allens had been gentleman farmers for three generations before his birth. They were originally Virginians of English ancestry, and by blood and by marriage were related in Virginia, and afterward in Kentucky, to the Madisons, Paynes, Johnsons, Lanes, Congers and Clays—all historic families."

"Cycling in the High Alps" is Mr. Joseph Pennell's inspiring theme for an article which is to appear in the May number of "Cosmopolis." Mr. and Mrs. Pennell whose unique and delightful cycling experiences in France, Hungary, Germany, the Hebrides, etc., have already given them a first place among cyclists, are putting forward a claim of a record

in the Alps. It is clear that they could have astonished Hannibal had he seen them during his famous crossing, and history might in that case have handed down to us a Punic Skedaddle instead of a Punic War. By the way, T. Fisher Unwin, of London, is publishing a volume in which Mrs. Pennell, under the title of "Over the Alps on a Bicycle," assisted by her husband's illustrations, explains how she crossed on her bicycle ten or a dozen of the highest Swiss passes, making a record by so doing.

The Periodicals.

In the next week's Literature, "Among My Books" will be written by Ian MacLaren.

Casper Whitney is the chief correspondent of "Harper's Weekly" in the war between the United States and Spain.

Poultney Bigelow, who within a month has crossed Spain on a bicycle, will give the Spanish view of the situation in a series of articles written for "Harper's Weekly."

The Theological staff has taken charge of the publishing of the Manitoba "College Journal" for the summer, and the first issue will soon be in the hands of subscribers. Of the staff Mr. Hy. Stirling is editor-in-chief, and Mr. R. A. King, business manager.

Mr. George Wrigley, formerly of the "Farmers' Sun," has established another journal in Toronto. The "Citizen and Country," as it is called, is a 16 page, 3 col., folio, neatly printed, and every page is replete with interesting matter on the political, social, moral and economic line.

In addition to its other special arrangements for war news, the Mail and Empire has despatched "Kit," the widely-known editor of its "Woman's Kingdom" page, to the United States to write up the war news for Canadian readers. "Kit's" reputation is sufficient to ensure a series of thoroughly readable letters.

"The Writer" (Boston) for May opens with a practical article on "Humorous Writing," by W. J. Lampton, the paragrapher of the "Washington Star," who writes so many bright verses for the "New York Sun." The "Personal Gossip About Authors" includes notes about Alphonse Daudet and W. S. Gilbert. The reference list of "Literary Articles in Periodicals" indexes all articles about literary matters in current periodicals, and the "News and Notes" are fresh and timely. The price of "The Writer" is ten cents a number, or one dollar a year. It is published by the Writer Publishing Co., P.O. Box 1905, Boston.