

and historical sketches of their most noted bishops. It has been artistically printed, bound and illustrated and as a gift book it can scarcely be surpassed.

Taylor, Bert Leaton. "The Well in the Wood." Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Co. This is one of the cleverest children's stories that has appeared for a long time. It details the remarkable adventures of a little girl in the woods, where she encounters all kinds of talking animals. The wit and quick repartee of these animals are charming.

Williamson, C. N. and A. M. "The Princess Passes." Toronto: McLeod & Allen. Cloth, \$1.25. This entertaining novel is in a measure a sequel to that popular motor story of "The Lightning Conductor." In it another English nobleman falls a prey to the wiles of a charming American girl. The scenes are set in the Alps and the authors have elaborated a delightful plot in which motors, donkeys and Italian scenery are pleasantly intermingled. A striking cover design by Mr. R. Holmes, a Toronto artist, embellishes the volume.

FORECASTS OF FORTHCOMING NOVELS.

"THE BRETHREN," by H. Rider Haggard, is just such a tale of adventure and mystery as might be expected from the author of "King Solomon's Mines" and "Allan Quartermain." The story centres around a young girl, Rosamund, living in England. She is half English and half Moorish; and, though she is unaware of it, niece to the great Saladin. He discovers her through a dream, and plans by his emissaries to capture her. Two English knights, "The Brethren," are in love with her, and set out to rescue her. Adventures in plenty on sea and land fall to their share, but eventually they succeed in their quest, and the more worthy of them gains the beautiful Rosamund for his bride. (Copp, Clark Co. \$1.50.)

"Double Harness," by Anthony Hope, is a story of married Londoners. Its pictures of the life of the smart set are vivacious and its dialogue is unfailingly witty, epigrammatic and entertaining. The story centres around a young couple; a girl very much of an idealist, and the man very staid and matter of fact. Because of the contrast in their characters they come near to shipwreck, but are saved by the lesson they learn from the disasters among their married friends to which they are witnesses.

"The Abbess of Vlaye," by Stanley J. Weyman, is a romance based upon the inevitable struggle between law and disorder which ensues upon the close of a civil war. In this case the civil war which left Henry the Fourth upon the throne of France. Of the two daughters of a decayed house, one, the Abbess of Vlaye, embraces the fortunes of a gallant but unscrupulous adventurer, whom the war has raised to a bad eminence, while the other inclines to the side of order in the person of the King's representative.

"Shining Ferry," by Quiller Couch, has a plot simple but of fascinating interest. To Rosewarne, of Hull, a man of strong character and passions, but not unlovable, succeeds his son Samuel, who, under the veneer of hypocrisy, conceals a devil of avarice and hate. This hate he vents on his blind child-nephew, whom he has in a sense cheated of his heritage, and on the poor old retainers of the Kiflow estate. In the end the cruelty of Rosewarne meets its right reward. He lets his passion get the mastery of him until one day he wakes up to find a wild beast within him, of which he goes in fear. He dreads himself. (Copp, Clark Co. \$1.50.)

NOTABLE SETS AND SERIES

ROBERTS' ANIMAL STORIES.

THE many admirers of the nature books of Professor Charles G. D. Roberts will welcome the little set of four volumes of his animal stories, containing "The Haunter of the Pine Gloom," "The Lord of the Air," "The King of the Mamozekel" and "The Watchers of the Camp Fire." These volumes have been sympathetically illustrated by Charles Livingston Bull. They are strikingly bound in illuminated covers, each bearing a likeness of the animal or bird about which the story is written. The set of four can be procured from L. C. Page & Co., of Boston, and the price of 50 cents per volume places them within the reach of everybody.

THE METHUEN DUMAS.

THE writer has now in his possession two volumes of the new edition of the works of Alexandre Dumas, which Methuen & Co., of London, England, are publishing. This publishing house have undertaken an enormous task in producing this edition. Only about one-third of the novels of the great French romancer have hitherto been translated into English. Even these translations, excellent in many cases as they have been, do not approach the standard required by Methuen & Co., and, in consequence, every one of the novels to be included in the new edition will have to be translated.

Paper and cloth editions are being issued. The volumes in the cloth edition are imposing in appearance, being bound in bright red with gilt lettering. In order to condense space as much as possible, the pages have been set double column, but the type is large and legible.

The paper edition appears in brightly lithographed covers and should prove popular among the patrons of stirring romance. When it is realized that some forty or fifty practically new Dumas novels, of as strong an interest as "The Three Musketeers," are to be put on the market in the course of the next few months, the bookseller will feel that the enterprise of Methuen & Co. is certainly a godsend.

THE CAMBRIDGE MODERN HISTORY.

WHEN the late Lord Acton died he left behind him the outline of a great historical work—the Cambridge Modern History. This history, which is now being written and published on the lines projected by the deceased historian, marks a new epoch in the writing of historical works. It is not the work of a single historian, but is the combined effort of a group of historians, each one of whom is an authority on some particular period or some particular subject. Thus, each volume contains the work of some dozen or more authors.

Up to the present time some four volumes of this important project have been published. Volume I. deals with the period of the Renaissance, Volume II. takes up the Reformation, Volume VII. details the history of the United States, and in Volume VIII. is to be found a discussion in all its various phases of the French Revolution. In all twelve volumes will be issued.

From the bookmaker's standpoint the various volumes of the Cambridge Modern History are splendid specimens of the printer's and binder's art. They are of imposing size, light in weight and excellently printed. Their binding is of simple blue cloth. The Macmillan Co. are the publishers both in England and the United States.

W. A. C.