

THE ACADEMY FICTION SUPPLEMENT.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1897.

THE NEWEST FICTION.

A GUIDE FOR NOVEL READERS.

THE event of the week is the publication of Mr. Rudyard Kipling's new story. For the rest we will content ourselves with remarking that the output for the past seven days amounts to thirty works of fiction, in addition to a number of stories for boys and girls.

CAPTAINS COURAGEOUS.

By RUDYARD KIPLING.

Mr. Kipling's longest story, already familiar to the readers of *Pearson's Magazine*. It is mainly about the sea, particularly about the hardy and independent sailor-men who fish for cod on the grand banks of Newfoundland. The story is slight, telling of a millionaire boy who falls overboard from a liner, is picked up by the crew of the *We're Here*, and carried against his will to the fishing ground. It abounds in technicalities and vigorous character drawing, and is well illustrated. (Macmillan & Co. 243 pp. 6s.)

LOCHINVAR.

By S. R. CROCKETT.

The latest work of this high-spirited, productive writer, completing his first round dozen of books. Here are some of the chapter headings: "The Duel at the Inn of Brederode"; "Haxo, the Bull, Interferes"; "The Prince of Orange"; "The Street of the Butchery"; "The Breaking of the Prison"; "The Battle on the Dunes"; "The Good Ship *Sea Unicorn*"; "The Isle of Bliss"; "The Leaguer of Dunkeld"; "Within the King's Mercy." *Lochinvar* has illustrations by Mr. Frank Richards, and a map by the author. (Methuen & Co. 446 pp. 6s.)

WAYFARING MEN.

By EDNA LYALL.

Edna Lyall's thousands of readers are trained to patience. She vouchsafes a new story only after an ample interval of time has lapsed since the last. *Wayfaring Men* is a novel of dramatic life, and is dedicated to the Profession, as actors call it. In *Donovan* it was shown that an atheist may be also a gentleman: here Edna Lyall would do the same service for the actor. The motto, from Emerson, runs:

"Every man's task is his life-preserver. The conviction that his work is dear to God, and cannot be spared, defends him."

(Longmans & Co. 452 pp. 6s.)

THE LAUGHTER OF JOVE.

By HELMUTH SCHWARTZE.

"At lovers' perjuries they say Jove laughs"—this line from *Romeo and Juliet* is the origin of the title of Mr. Schwartz's intensely modern story. The hero is one who takes life seriously. He sins and repents through 356 pages, and then enters a monastery. (Grant Richards. 6s.)

SECRETARY TO BAYNE, M.P.

By W. PETT RIDGE.

Mr. Pett Ridge's public know what to expect. For gloom, neuroticism, psychology they go elsewhere. His new story opens in Paris, with a view of the departure of a youth visiting London for the first time. There he becomes secretary to a Member of Parliament, falls in love, and sees London life freshly. You are carried to the end easily, and left in a good temper. (Methuen. 308 pp. 6s.)

A PRINCE OF MISCHANCE.

By TOM GALLON.

Mr. Gallon's first book was a tender little story in the Dickens tradition, called *Tatterley*. He now follows it with *A Prince of Mischance*, a more ambitious and intricate attempt. The prince is a Greek who is brought up in an English professor's family. The contrast between the young Greek's character and that of Arthur Paddison, an English boy, affords the writer many of his opportunities. (Hutchinson & Co. 361 pp. 6s.)

THE KING WITH TWO FACES.

By M. E. COLERIDGE.

A breathless romance in the style of Dumas, by the author of *The Seven Sleepers of Ephesus*. "Four horses, saddled and bridled, stood ready." This note of haste and emergency is well kept up. Pageants glow and pistol shots flash through these pages, and melodrama is exhausted. We gather, however, that the story is founded on facts in Mr. Nisbet Bain's *Gustav III. and his Contemporaries*. (Edward Arnold. 421 pp. 6s.)

CUPID'S GARDEN.

By ELLEN THORNECROFT FOWLER.

A book of pleasant, straightforward stories about conventional people. The first, "An Old Wife's Tale," has the merit of giving the reader a complete surprise in its last sentence, and in "Priscilla Hawthorne" the same ingenuity of plot has a like result. (Cassell & Co. 296 pp.)

A DAUGHTER OF STRIFE.

By JANE HELEN FINDLATER.

This story opens in 1710. Anne Champion, a pretty straw-plaiter, has a lover—Surgeon Sebastian Shepley—at the wars in Flanders. Enter a friend of her lover's, who, struck with her beauty, suppresses the message he has brought from Surgeon Shepley. Instead of delivering it, he represents Shepley to have married a Dutch girl. He is believed, and thus the possibilities of the story are soon grasped. (Methuen & Co. 284 pp. 6s.)

THE WITCH WIFE.

By SARAH TYTLER.

This story is laid in Scotland in the last decade, when the belief in witches lingered still in that country. It opens with the birth of a "lad-bairn" to Randal Drummond, the laird of Glenferroch, and the arrival of "Sonsie Sibbie"—a fine young woman of strange moods and uncommon abilities—to be his nurse. A witch-burning scene is one of the incidents of the story. (Chatto & Windus. 280 pp.)

KATHERINE CROMER.

By HELEN CRAVEN.

Lady Kitty Cromer is pursued by an English lord and an Italian opera-singer, and she is clever enough and uncertain enough to make the chase very interesting to the reader. On her marriage her best friend can only exclaim, "I wonder how it will work?" The reader must form his own opinion on that point. (A. D. Innes & Co. 334 pp.)

THRO' LATTICE-WINDOWS.

By W. J. DAWSON.

Mr. Dawson is a clergyman, and his *Idylls of London* and *S'ory of Hannah* may be remembered. Here he gives us a series of carefully drawn village episodes, welded into a continuous story. The wickedest man in Barford, one Dexter, is the first character introduced, and he plays a leading part in this drama of chapel and tea-meetings. (Hodder & Stoughton. 293 pp.)

THE IRON CROSS.

By R. H. SHERARD.

Mr. Sherard confesses to such a feeling of embarrassment with regard to the title of this story that he asked Mr. Hall Caine to choose it for him. *The Iron Cross* is the result. The scene is laid in the Landes; the hero is a young Englishman, an author; and there are mysteries and adventures in plenty. (C. Arthur Pearson. 311 pp. 3s. 6d.)

PRINCESS SARAH.

By JOHN STRANGE WINTER.

The latest work of the author of *Bootle's Baby*. That old favourite is, indeed, to some extent provided with a sequel in the story called "Mignon;" and in "Halt!" we are again shown the sentimental soldier. The other stories have that briskness and spirit which is associated with John Strange Winter's writings. The book is illustrated. (Ward, Lock & Co. 295 pp.)