

In the Palace of the King. By F. Marion Crawford. \$1.50.
 An Englishwoman's Love-Letters. \$1.50.
 Richard Yea-and-Nay. By Maurice Hewlett. \$1.50.
 The Sky Pilot. By Ralph Connor. \$1.25.
 Billy Baxter's Letters. By W. J. Kountz, Jr. 75 cents.
 When Knighthood Was in Flower. By Edward Caskoden. \$1.50.
 To Have and to Hold. By Mary Johnston. \$1.50.
 Quincy Adams Sawyer. By C. F. Pidgin. \$1.50.
 The Cardinal's Snuff-Box. By H. Harland. \$1.50.
 Stringtown on the Pike. By John Uri Lloyd. \$1.50.
 Monsieur Beaucaire. By Booth Tarkington. \$1.25.
 The Master Christian. By Marie Corelli. \$1.50.

WESTERN LETTER.

CHICAGO, February 1, 1901.

Business during the opening month of the new year was, upon the whole, not unsatisfactory, and even decidedly encouraging if taken as an augury of what is to come later. The volume of trade was quite up to the average, and the demand, although it did not present many features of especial interest, was brisk right through the month, and absorbed a lot of staple stock. Popular novels went moderately well only, and the leaders in this class—that is, the first half dozen or so—were not quite so far removed from the rest in respect to numbers sold as has been the custom lately. Library trade, always good at this season, was especially lively, and, as always in January, very general in its character. Country business was also brisk, the orders received indicating a desire on the part of the smaller bookseller to stock up pretty liberally.

Eben Holden and *Alice of Old Vincennes* again took precedence in actual sale, but considered in comparison to December sales, such books as *Stringtown on the Pike*, *In the Palace of the King*, *Eleanor*, *The Master Christian*, *The Cardinal's Snuff-Box* and *Uncanonised* made quite as good a showing, and these titles should do well during the coming months.

January is about the quietest month of the year for new publications, and practically no work of popular interest appeared. Most of the books which are expected to take a prominent place in spring sales are scheduled for next month, and in the meantime publishers are pushing fairly vigorously the books which made their mark last year.

The honours of the month belong, perhaps, to *An Englishwoman's Love-Letters*, decidedly the most talked-of book to-day, and Rostand's new play, *L'Aiglon*, this last named having met with a very large sale for a work of its class, almost as good in fact as did the author's famous *Cyrano de Bergerac*.

The best selling books during January were: *Eben Holden*. By Irving Bacheller. \$1.50.

Alice of Old Vincennes. By Maurice Thompson. \$1.50.
L'Aiglon (French and English editions). By Edmond Rostand. \$1.50.
Eleanor. By Mrs. Humphry Ward. \$1.50.
To Have and to Hold. By Mary Johnston. \$1.50.
In the Palace of the King. By Marion Crawford. \$1.50.
The Last Years of the Nineteenth Century. By Mrs. E. W. Latimer. \$2.50.
The Master Christian. By Marie Corelli. \$1.50.
Stringtown on the Pike. By J. U. Lloyd. \$1.50.
An Englishwoman's Love-Letters (all editions).
David Harum. By E. N. Westcott. \$1.50.
Uncanonised. By Margaret Horton Potter. \$1.50.
The Cardinal's Snuff-Box. By Henry Harland. \$1.50.
Monsieur Beaucaire. By Booth Tarkington. \$1.25.

ENGLISH LETTER.

DECEMBER 13, 1900, TO JANUARY 19, 1901.

After a very trying year, fraught with many disappointments and much complaining, the closing weeks which formed the Christmas season came as a solatium to the trade. Busy as that time generally is, the pressure commenced somewhat earlier than is customary, and it soon became apparent that we were in for a record run. Not for a number of years have we experienced such a demand for literature of every class, and every branch of the trade had to exert itself to the utmost in order to successfully cope with it.

With the passing of the Festival, a period of comparative slackness has ensued, but a very fair amount of trade has been transacted throughout the present month. Events still stimulate an interest in connection with the South African campaign. *The Great Boer War*, by Conan Doyle; *How we Escaped from Pretoria*, by Captain Haldane, and several of the more popular works in connection with the subject have experienced a ready sale. *An Absent-Minded War* moves as briskly as ever, and *From Boer to Boer and Englishman*, by Paul Botha, has been eagerly sought after, and has, according to the daily press, considerably exercised the mind of the ubiquitous De Wet.

The output of 6s. novels during the past month has been very limited, the most noticeable being *A Missing Hero*, by Mrs. Alexander; *The Wastrel*, by Mary A. Dickens; *In the Name of a Woman*, by A. W. Marchmont; and *Eben Holden*, by Irving Bacheller. The most popular continue to be *The Master Christian*, *Rue with a Difference* and *In the Palace of the King*. In biography, *Napoleon: The Last Phase*, continues to be foremost, while *Cromwell*, by Morley; *Life of Earl Roberts*, and *The Life of Irene Petrie*, by Mrs. Carus Wilson, have been very popular.

An Englishwoman's Love-Letters has proved one of the leading features of the season, over 25,000 copies having been disposed of. It is

pleasing also to see that a hearty reception is being given by the public to the works of our standard authors—Dickens, Thackeray, and Scott—more especially in the new issues, such as the New Century Library, and the New Pocket Edition and New Border Edition of the Waverley novels.

Good sales have been effected in many of the annuals, the *Daily Mail Year Book* having proved an immense success, while our old friends, *Whitaker* and *Hazell*, well maintain their position.

Among the magazines several new arrivals deservedly claim our attention—the *Ladies' Magazine*, the *Twentieth Century*, and the *Thrush*. The latter is somewhat unique in that it caters solely for the poetical taste of the public.

Subjoined is our list of the best selling books during the past month:

- The Master Christian. By Marie Corelli. 6s. (Methuen.)
 Rue with a Difference. By Rosa N. Carey. 6s. (Macmillan.)
 In the Palace of the King. By F. M. Crawford. 6s. (Macmillan.)
 An Englishwoman's Love-Letters. 5s. net. (J. Murray.)
 Richard Yea-and-Nay. By Maurice Hewlett. 6s. (Macmillan.)
 Isle of Unrest. By H. S. Merriman. 6s. (Smith, Elder.)
 Emma Marshall. By Beatrice Marshall. 6s. (Seeley.)
 Irene Petrie. By Mrs. Carus Wilson. 6s. (Hodder and Stoughton.)
 Eleanor. By Mrs. H. Ward. 6s. (Smith, Elder.)
 Herod. By Stephen Phillips. 3s. 6d. net. (Lane.)

BOOKS RECEIVED.

JANUARY 10 TO FEBRUARY 10.

NEW YORK.

- Abbey Press:
 Through Stress and Storm. Gregory Brooke.
 Sweetbriar. L. M. Elshemus.
 A Quaker Scout. N. P. Runyan.
 How to Enjoy Matrimony. Rose Marie.
 American Book Company:
 Outlines of Roman History. William C. Morey, Ph.D.
 Easy Steps in Latin. Mary Hammer.
 Syntax of Classical Greek. Basil Lanneau Gildersleeve.
 Andrews, Charles M.:
 The North Americans of Yesterday. Frederick S. Dellenbaugh.
 The Laws of Scientific Hand Reading. William G. Benham.
 In Scipio's Gardens and Other Poems. Samuel Valentine Cole.
 Four Great Venetians. Frank Preston Stearns.
 Appleton and Company:
 A History of Chinese Literature. Herbert A. Giles.

- A Hero in Homespun. William E. Barton.
 Mrs. Clyde. Julien Gordon.
 The Private Life of King Edward VII. By a Member of the Royal Household.
 Bates, Frank A.:
 Bates Genealogy, Genealogy of the Descendants of Edward Bates of Weymouth, Mass. Samuel Austin Bates.
 Buckles and Company:
 The Conquest of London. Dorothea Gerard.
 Cassell and Company:
 Tales from the Decameron. Giovanni Boccaccio.
 The Shepherds' Calendar. Edmund Spenser.
 Cooke and Fry:
 Random Fancies. James B. Townsend.
 Harper and Brothers:
 Eastover Court House. Henry Burnham Boone and Kenneth Brown.
 Home Publishing Company:
 Tangled Flags. Archibald Clavering Gunter.
 Jenkins:
 La Sainte-Catherine. André Theuriot.
 The Story of Valentine and His Brother. Mrs. M. O. W. Oliphant.
 Lane:
 Poems. By Alexander Blair Thaw.
 Ad Astra. Charles Whitworth Wynne.
 Lemcke and Buechner:
 The New Dispensation. J. Wilson.
 Longmans, Green and Company:
 How the Garden Grew. Maud Maryon.
 The Oresteia of Æschylus. G. C. W. Warr.
 The Teaching of Latin and Greek in the Secondary School. By Charles E. Bennett and George P. Bristol.
 Lupton Publishing Company:
 Gwynett of Thornhaugh. Frederick W. Hayes.
 Macmillan Company:
 Considerations on Painting. Lectures Given in the Year 1893 at the Metropolitan Museum of New York. By John Lafarge.
 A Treasury of Irish Poetry in the English Tongue. Edited by Stopford A. Brooke and T. W. Rolleston.
 Who's Who, 1901. An Annual Biographical Dictionary.
 The American Negro. William Hannibal Thomas.
 A Dictionary of Architecture and Building. Russell Sturgis, A.M., Ph.D.
 Mansfield, M. F.:
 The Book of Omar and Rubaiyat. Being a Book of Miscellanies. Biographical and Pictorial Notes on Omar Khayyam of Naishapur and His Inspired Quatrains.
 McClure, Phillips and Company:
 The Richard Mansfield Acting Version of King Henry V.
 The Philippines: The War and the People. Albert G. Robinson.