

the volumes we are glad to call attention again to a book of such unusual geniality. The sketch of Bampton, a little Devon town, in wet weather, and the tailpiece to the second volume, "Veniet Nox" (see p. 15), will perhaps do something to suggest the variety of the illustrations which adorn the book.

THE SURPRISING ADVENTURES OF BARON MUNCHAUSEN.

Illustrated by WILLIAM STRANGE and J. B. CLARK. With an introduction by THOMAS SECCOMBE. (Lawrence and Bullen.)

Among the illustrated books of the season there are many that are graceful and pretty and some that are of enduring interest. But among them all there is not a rival for vigour, originality, robustness of conception and execution, to this picture edition of the famous Baron's adventures. There is enough similarity between the work of the two illustrators to prevent any incongruity in their collaboration, but they have their individualities too, which are not a little interesting. The rollicking humour of the book has been interpreted, but interpreted with an intelligent restraint; and even those to whom Munchausen does not appeal have in these masterpieces of black and white art a separate source of enjoyment. It is perfectly safe to assert that such vigorous, such convincingly good work must be valued now and generations hence. Mr. Seccombe's introduction is a well-written and interesting one, containing matter that will be new to most readers, seeing that not a few who have known the book from their childhood have vague ideas as to its authorship and the country of its birth.

THE YELLOW FAIRY BOOK.

Edited by ANDREW LANG. Illustrated by H. J. FORD. 6s. (Longmans.)

Mr. Lang's Fairy Books are all good: the yellow one seems as full and amusing as the rest, though most of the best-known stories got into the other colours. However, here are 'Thumbelina' and 'The Little Green Frog,' and 'The Steadfast Tin Soldier,' a capital collection from the Icelandic, and many more. Mr. Lang's translators do their work well; all the stories read pleasantly, and Mr. Ford improves rather than goes back in his interpretation of Fairyland. The green, red, and blue fairy books need this one for a neighbour. Possessors of the others will think there is no falling off, and begin to speculate about next year's colour.

YOUNG TRAVELLERS' TALES.

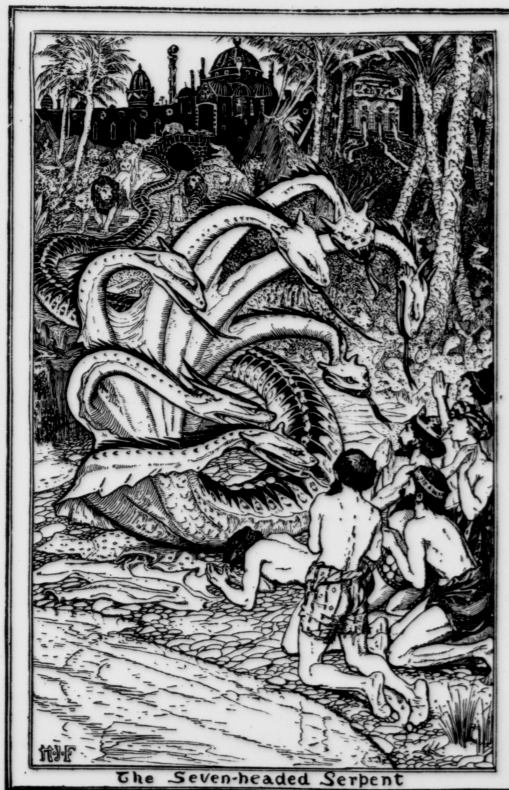
By ASCOTT R. HOPE. Illustrated by H. J. DRAPER. (Blackie.)

The tales take you to many parts of the globe, and have plenty of instruction in them for studious boys, which idle ones will never find out. But neither will miss the excitement and the cheerful enjoyment that run through the book. Mr. Ascott R. Hope never writes drivel, nor does he pile up adventures senselessly. He uses good material, and uses it with a dignity which boys are not at all blind to.

(Illustration on p. 10.)



From 'Baron Munchausen.' (Lawrence and Bullen.)



The Seven-headed Serpent

From 'The Yellow Fairy Book.' (Longmans.)

BORIS THE BEAR-HUNTER.

By F. WHISHAW. 3s. 6d. (Nelson.)

Boris, the hunter, peasant, and serf, is a picturesque hero for a story. His skill and pluck and modesty will endear him to young readers, as they did to his own countrymen and to no less a person even than Peter the Great himself. Mr. Whishaw has made the most of his opportunities. Boys should have their eyes on this book.

(Illustration on p. 10.)

WHEN WE WERE STROLLING PLAYERS IN THE EAST.

By LOUISE JORDAN MILN. Illustrated. (Osgood, McIlvaine.)

The chief secret of Mrs. Miln's success as a writer of travels is her power of enjoyment, a very rare and good gift. But it has counted not a little in her success, too, that she is not above expressing her enjoyment in the unliterary but expressive language of an enthusiastic woman. Before you have read ten pages of her book you are on excellent terms with her, and your good humour lasts till the end