

ism so catch the eye and impress the mind of the virgin queen that she makes him a court chaplain as the only means of frustrating the attempt to send him to the Bastille or the scaffold. The vanity and fidelity of the good queen are clearly limned, as is the perfidy of the man who came so near being King of England, Leicester. But by God's grace and the queen's favour the plot against the Camisard preacher is foiled, and all goes merry as a marriage bell.

"Starting-Points for Speakers, Preachers, Writers, and Other Thinkers." By John Horne. Cincinnati: Jennings & Graham. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. 160. Price, 60c. net.

This book is an admirable selection of quotations from men of note, chiefly recent writers, on a wide variety of subjects, well indexed. It will be found very useful for teachers and preachers. The following from Lord Rosebery is a characteristic example: "The British Empire is not a centralized Empire. It does not, as other empires, hinge on a single autocrat or even on a single Parliament, but it is a vast collection of communities spread all over the world, many with their own Legislatures, but all with their own Governments, and, therefore, resting, in a degree which is known in no other state of which history has record, on the intelligence of the individuals who compose it. Some of the empires have rested on armies, and some on constitutions. It is the boast of the British Empire that it rests on men."

"The Entering Wedge." A Romance of the Heroic Days of Kansas. By William Kennedy Marshall. Cincinnati: Jennings & Graham. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. 274. Price, \$1.00.

The story of the Kansas immigrants who carried the spirit of New England and its love of liberty into the borderland of slavery is one of the most stirring in the annals of the neighbouring Republic. That movement was indeed the entering wedge which split the country in twain and led to its reunion on a higher moral plane. Nor was it without its baptism of blood. The stirring story of John Brown, and his fidelity to truth and freedom, and the massacre at Lawrence, always stir the heroic pulses in our souls. In the form of a

romance the record of these stirring days is reproduced.

"The man that is not moved at what he reads,  
That takes not fire at their heroic deeds,  
Unworthy of the blessing of the brave,  
Is base in kind, and born to be a slave."

"Black Dyke." By Ramsay Guthrie. Author of "On God's Lines," etc. London: Chas. H. Kelly. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. viii-310.

The romance of the mine is one of fascinating interest. Among the collier lads John Wesley found some of his bitterest persecutors and most zealous converts. The contact with the elemental forces of nature develops a sturdy strength of character in these gnomes of commerce. Of this Thomas Burt, M.P., the Northumberland miner who rose to the Treasury Bench, to whom this book is dedicated, is a striking example. Ramsay Guthrie writes of that which he knows. He makes us see the things which he describes. His character-painting is akin to that of J. M. Barrie. He has, like Barrie, a fine vein of humour, and can also touch the fount of tears. The religious sentiment is the Methodist and evangelical, and the book is an addition to those "Methodist Idylls," those annals of the poor which have made Methodism so rich in religious biography.

"Ecclesiastes." Words of Koheleth, Son of David, King in Jerusalem. Translated Anew, Divided According to their Logical Cleavage, and Accompanied with a Study of their Literary and Spiritual Values and a Running Commentary. By John Franklin Genung. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. xiv-361. Price, \$1.25.

The book of Ecclesiastes is the paradox of Scripture. Its seeming cynicism and pessimism make it differ from every other book of the sacred canon. This volume discusses this crux of criticism, examines its history, the various theories as to its authorship and interpretation, and the position which it holds among the famous literary discussions of human life. The author furnishes also a new translation of the words of the preacher, fresh and vigorous, and often accompanied by illuminative comments—a book of special advantage to preachers.