

antipathies, and remove caste prejudices, to blend northern and southern ideas, was an almost hopeless task. This book records the failure of one such attempt. As a story it lacks natural sequence and verisimilitude; but as a political pamphlet it is a powerful indictment of the reconstruction policy. It is understood to be the work of Judge Tourjee, who has an ample knowledge of life in the South, and gives graphic pictures of life among the freedmen and their late masters. The name of the book is the cleverest thing about it. The hero, an ex-union soldier or "Canadian Yankee," as he is called, buys an estate in Georgia, sells most of it in small farms to freedmen, and finds himself completely ostracised by his southern neighbours. A frightful picture is given of the outrages of that mysterious organization of masked midnight murderers, the Klu-klux-klan. Like the Council of Ten, the Vehmgericht, the Indian Thugs, it caused a reign of terror which paralysed the arm of justice, and tortured, hanged, or otherwise killed its victims without fear and without restraint. Many of the instances of outrage seem incredible, but the worst of them, the writer avers, have been confirmed by sworn testimony, and by fifteen volumes of evidence taken by a commission of Congress. The "Fool," after failing in his mission for reorganizing society in accordance with northern principles, at last dies of yellow fever. The personal kindness and chivalry of the southerners is admirably portrayed, but their political character is represented as one of wanton despotism. The book is strongly partisan, and we presume our southern friends would say is a distorted caricature. We suspect, however, that in many respects it is only too true a picture of a transition state of society, which we trust is giving place to a better type.

*The Home of Fiesole, and the Times of Savonarola.* Pp. 350. Toronto: Wm. Briggs. Price, 90 cents.

This is a touching story, giving a picture of the great religious move-

ment under the "Prophet of Florence," and of its tragical termination in his martyrdom, and the religious reaction which has kept Italy ever since the minion of the Pope. But when we compare this book with the treatment of the same subject in George Eliot's "Romola,"—the grandest, we think, of all her novels,—it is to the latter "as moonlight is to sunlight, or as water is to wine."

*Hypatia, or New Foes with an Old Face.* By the Rev. CHARLES KINGSLEY. pp. 487. Methodist Book Concern, New York; and Wm. Briggs, Toronto. Price, paper 60c. Same in Harper's Franklin Square edition. Price 15 cents.

This is the greatest of Kingsley's historical tales. It illustrates the conflict between Christianity and paganism, in the fifth century, for the possession of the race. It was a great transition era. "Everywhere," to use the striking figure of our author, "the mangled heads of the Old World were seething in the Medea's caldron to come forth whole and young and strong." The scene is laid chiefly in Alexandria, which was a sort of newer Athens or older Paris; a centre of both fashion and philosophy. We know nothing more tragical in history than the fate of the heroic, beautiful Hypatia, the last teacher of Greek philosophy, butchered by the hands of bigoted monks, and her flesh scraped from her bones with sharp shells, and her body burned with fire. So striking and truthful a picture is given of this important period that this book has been selected for the Chautauqua course, and some twenty thousand members of the C. L. S. C., have been, or are now diligently studying its pages.

*Memories of James Bain Morrow.* By the Rev. A. W. NICOLSON. p.p. 179. Methodist Book Rooms: Toronto and Halifax.

This is one of the most interesting books of biography we ever read. The subject was a man of singularly attractive character, and