



A FAIR SHOT.

**THE KNOCKABOUT CLUB IN NORTH AFRICA**, by Fred. A. Ober, \$1.50. (Boston: Estes and Lauriat.) One of those charmingly illustrated books of travel and adventure, for which these publishers are famous. The episodes of the snake charmer, and the American savant, who was within an ace of being murdered by the savage boatman, because he would not pay more than twice the fare, are capitally told, and the book has most useful digressions, which beguile the young reader into being instructed while under the spell of the adventures. Such are the couple of pages devoted to the rise and tenets of Mahometanism and the history of the Barbary Corsairs and their extermination, in which the Americans, under Bainbridge and Decatur, led the way. The book is comprehensive, embracing from Morocco, on the west, to Egypt, on the east, and dwelling on Algiers, Carthage, Tunis and the Great Desert.

**BOOKS ON THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.**—A book that ought to command a wide sale in Canada is Mr. Hezekiah Butterworth's "Ziz-zag Journeys in the Great North-West." (Boston, U. S.: Estes and Lauriat, 1890.) Price \$1.75. It is written for boys, and interesting alike to boys, young and old, bringing in all kinds of information about the Flora and Fauna of Pacific Canada, and giving the various historical data and legends which relate to the places visited in the journey and the sources of nomenclature. He tells us what is known of Juan de Fuca and Puget, and of Vancouver naming the places on Puget sound. He gives us a most interesting account, admirably illustrated, of Canada, from sea to sea—from Quebec to Vancouver. There are almost 120 illustrations from views of the ancient streets of Quebec and the stately Parliament buildings and Falls at Ottawa, to incidents of Indian warfare, depictions of the birds and beasts of the North-West and the forest, Alpine peak and glacier scenery of British Columbia, not forgetting the beautiful and hapless University buildings of Toronto and the softly wooded islands which have given the titles to the Thousand Islands and the Lake of the Woods. Mr. Butterworth, like all the superior minds of America, writes generously and enthusiastically of the Island empire from which his ancestors

sprung. This is how he describes that November day in 1885: "Clank! The last spike was driven. The two oceans were bridged; the Rocky Mountains conquered and bound, never to be released. England might travel now toward the Orient to China and Japan, in the continuous lights of her own ships and homes, and under the shadow of St. George's Cross. The construction of the road had not only conquered the Rockies and linked the two oceans, it had done more; it had bound the greater half of North America to England in bonds stronger than iron. The clang on the last spike had riveted the two continents of the possessions of the English crown and made a greater England possible on this side of the Atlantic. The book is prefaced with a capital portrait and interesting biography of Mr. Butterworth. It is seldom that views are so well reproduced in a popular book.

**THE PACIFIC COAST SCENIC TOUR**, by Henry T. Finck (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, price \$2.50, 1890) is a pleasantly written book by another broad-minded American, with really exquisite illustrations. He goes further, in latitudes, than Mr. Butterworth, for he takes in the whole Pacific Coast, from Mexico to Alaska. He also waxes enthusiastic over the American Switzerland, meaning British Columbia and the adjacent Alpine districts. His specialty is "The American Mediterranean, Puget Sound, though he gives some ravishing pictures of what Charles Dudley Warner calls "the Winter of Our Content." His description of San Francisco—especially Chinatown—is distinctly good as far as it goes, and I am inclined to think that it goes far enough. Books of travel now-a-days are so apt to be over-burdened with detail and incident that it is quite a task to read them unless one intends to use them as guide books. It is quite a relief to turn to a literary traveller who, like an experienced commercial traveller, can give us an idea of a big stock by judiciously chosen samples. Mr. Finck has a great enthusiasm for Victoria, where "many Americans for the first time get a glimpse of English life, and devotes a couple of pages to its attractiveness, and was struck with the solidity of Vancouver!"—solid, substantial, granite and brick

buildings, four to five stories high, and many of them of real architectural merit and individuality—buildings such as usually only seen in cities of one hundred thousand inhabitants."

#### The Presentation to Vicar-General Dawson.

In connection with the account of this pleasant event, which appeared in our issue of December 27, it ought to have been stated that the conception and carrying out of the idea of thus honouring a worthy clergyman and man of letters were due to Mr. Henry J. Morgan, who had, however, the willing co-operation of a large number of persons to whom Dr. Dawson was known either personally or by repute. Among these was Mr. McLeod Stewart, who, as president of St. Andrew's Society, took so leading a part in the presentation. We may add that it was the Rev. Father Nolin, who, as representing the University of Ottawa, read Bishop McDonnell's letter appointing Dr. Dawson an honorary Vicar-General of His Lordship's diocese of Alexandria. This he did by the Bishop's desire, as he was an *alumnus* of the University, otherwise the letter would have been read by the Rev. F. Campeau, Administrator of the Archdiocese, during the Archbishop's absence.

#### Oil Painting.

We have had the pleasure of inspecting a life-sized oil painting, by Mr. J. W. L. Forster, of the late Edwin T. Coates, whose tragic death took place in Toronto last June. It is a most accurate, faithful and life-like portrait, and we congratulate Mr. Forster (who, we believe, is a Canadian) on this additional proof of his deserved popularity as a master-artist.

#### Lady Dufferin.

Rudyard Kipling makes the statement that Lady Dufferin's work in India has done more, and promises more, in the solution of the troublesome Eastern empire problem than all masculine efforts and suggestions.