

schoolbooks and newspapers, have been living largely upon foreign literary harvests, and, even this, at the expense, in many cases, of the British author, stolen reprints of whose books have been allowed to come into this country on the nominal payment of a small duty. This the author of the Royal Society paper calls piracy and theft. The same subject has been discussed in the Toronto *Week* and in other high-class journals. Literature in Canada is just beginning to assert itself, but as yet the Dominion has no publisher worthy of the name, and, outside of the universities and higher colleges, few lovers of literature to bring enlightened public opinion to bear upon a government, whose commissions we generally found too ready to listen to *ex parte* evidence favouring a selfish policy.

This leads naturally to the new Canadian Magazine of Politics, Science, Art, and Literature, which comes with the compliments of its editor, Mr. J. Gordon Mowat. It is a good thing when a magazine boldly tells the name of its responsible officer. Anonymity is a poor thing anywhere except in deeds of charity. As a rule anonymous people are not charitable. The natural leading arises from the fact that Principal Grant, in his Anti-National Features of the National Policy, singles out the infamous Tax on Books, from which Canada alone, among all civilized com-

munities, does not exempt educational institutions. Dalton McCarthy writes on The Manitoba Public School Law; Professor Clark of Trinity has a kindly Christian paper on Conduct and Manner; and W. W. Campbell, a readable poem on Sir Lancelot, who by this time is generally regarded as the peculiar property of the late Laureate. W. W. Fox's paper, In the Shadow of the Arctic, an illustrated story of a voyage to Hudson's Bay, is worth reading; as is John Hare Cameron's Quartier Latin in Paris, also fully illustrated. The short stories are feeble, but, taking the magazine all in all, it deserves support, and the Talker sincerely hopes it may maintain itself and more.

The first volume of The Journal and Transactions of the Wentworth Historical Society comes from Hamilton, a well printed, paper bound volume of 200 pages. Its papers are numerous and many of them valuable, including the report of the Society's outing at Stony Creek, with Mr. Land's account of the battle fought there during the war of 1812. Mr. John Glasgow gives Fifty Year's Experience of Canadian Life; and Dean Geddes contributes Notes of Autobiography. Studies in Canadian History and Mrs. John Rose Holden's Champlain, the Father and Founder of Canada, and Crusade of the Seventeenth Century: the Rev. E. J. Fessenden's U. E. Loyalists as Imperial