

Book Review.

"Drink and its Remedies," the title of a catechism originally compiled by Father Cullen, S.J., Dublin, and now enlarged by a Vincentian Father, is an excellent brochure simultaneously issued by six different Catholic publishing houses. The cause of temperance is therein treated with considerable detail. The principle inculcating the practice of this virtue, even for people moderately addicted to the use of stimulants, is copiously set forth with texts from Scripture and the Holy Fathers. The earnest advocates of the temperance movement will undoubtedly find this little work admirably adapted to their purpose.

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"Canadian Essays," on subjects critical and historical, form a volume neatly edited, in attractive cover, by the firm of William Briggs, Toronto. Written at different epochs, and published in various magazines, these valuable essays collected and preserved in book form is a distinct gain to Canadian literature. The author, Mr. Thomas O'Hagan, M.A., Ph.D., is also well known as a writer of verse. The first three essays, "Canadian Poets and Poetry," "Canadian Women Writers," and "French Canadian Life and Literature," treat these topics very succinctly but exhaustively. Evincing nothing but the true spirit of criticism they show untiring solicitude to search out and encourage real worth; therein the humblest as well as the more successful of literary workers are properly mentioned and commended. Not once is the author seen to dip his pen into vitriol for the purpose of humiliating a rival or stinging a competitor. Mr. O'Hagan dwells considerably on the undisputed activity of the Canadian writers, still he is far from thinking that the finish of perfection has been reached. "Not yet, it is true," he remarks, "has come our Canadian Longfellow, our Canadian Tennyson, or our Canadian Browning. When he does appear he shall come dowered with the fullest gift of song, and in that song he shall catch up something of the sublimity of our mountains, the azure of our Canadian skies, the light and glow of our northern stars—some-