

THE WORLD OF BOOKS.

The recent death of the great humorist who so long instructed as well as amused the world, under the pseudonym of "Petroleum V. Nasby," has drawn renewed attention upon his writings. America has created a class of humorous writers more universal and potent in their charm, perhaps, than those of any other country or period. Of these, it is not exaggeration to say that "Petroleum V. Nasby" was the greatest, in that his humor, if less unfailing, less twain, than that, for instance, of Mark Twain or Artemus Ward, is more securely based upon moral purpose and an earnest humanitarianism. In the great struggle between North and South, the work of "Petroleum V. Nasby" counted definitely as a potent factor—and counted for the right. This help was recognized with continual gratitude and admiration by Lincoln himself, who once said to Sumner, regarding the Nasby letters, "For the genius to write these things I would gladly give up my office." The volume entitled, *The Struggles of Petroleum V. Nasby*, is prefaced by an introduction from the pen of Sumner himself, who testifies warmly to the part these letters played "in the war with slavery, and in advancing reconstruction." Mr. Sumner says further: "It is impossible to measure their value." The humor of Nasby is not at all dependent upon grotesque spelling, but shines forth more attractively, to our mind, in those works wherein the orthography of our English tongue is respected. Such are the shrewd and inimitable *Morals of Ahab*, and the racy realistic story of *A Paper City*. The work called *Hannah Jane* is a poem, serious and sincere, without a trace even of sportiveness. Its deep human note, and its unaffected pathos, afford a striking evidence of the richness of the author's nature. Of him, far more than of his fellow humorists, may it be said that the world is not only the more cheerful but the better for his work.

In this compact little volume, we have in fact two works—an abridgement of Dr. Withrow's well known *History of Canada*, and a sketch-survey of Canadian literature, by Mr. G. Mercer Adam. The former work is very valuable, as a lucid and brief narrative of what must be of intense interest to all Canadians. Dr. Withrow speaks with authority and impartiality. He is one of our weightiest and best equipped writers. We find singularly little in the work to criticize, though we might wish, perhaps, a little modification of Dr. Withrow's version of the expulsion of the Acadians, in the light of the comparatively recent investigations of Mr. Parkman and Sir Adams Archibald. We might wish also for greater accuracy in the statement of the border difficulties between Maine and New Brunswick.

The sketch of Canadian literature is by one thoroughly familiar with his subject. Perhaps no one could be found with a wider knowledge of the subject than that possessed by Mr. G. Mercer Adam. Mr. Adam does not attempt searching criticism in this small sketch, but aims merely to present information—which he does in most urbane and graceful prose, and with keen, patriotic appreciation for all that is worthy Canadian.

The *Algonquin Maiden* is a Canadian romance, written in partnership. Mr. Adam furnishes the historical setting from his rich knowledge of our history and our local development. This renders the work faithful, and of special value to the Canadian reader. Miss Wetherald supplies the romance, the skilful and racy dialogue. She has a trained and effective pen, and a marked gift for spirited fiction. She has insight also, and wit, and we expect of her, with her very evident powers, better things than those she has yet given us. We cannot but think that such a partnership as this between Miss Wetherald and Mr. Adam is a disadvantage to both. Their departments are totally different; and in their departments each is well able to stand alone. But by all means read the *Algonquin Maiden*. It will be time most pleasantly spent; and you will be spending your time profitably, in spite of your self.

R.
* The works of David Ross Locke (Petroleum V. Nasby).
* *The Struggles of Petroleum V. Nasby*. New edition, illustrated by Thomas Nast. 1 vol., 8 vo., \$2.50.
A Paper City. 1 vol., 12 mo., \$1.
Morals of Ahab. 1 vol., 12 mo., \$1.
Hannah Jane. New edition, illustrated by S. G. McCutcheon and Edward Garrett. 1 vol., 8 vo., \$1.50. Boston: Lee & Shepard.

1 *Canadian History and Literature*. By William H. Withrow, D.D., F.R.S.C., and G. Mercer Adam. Toronto: William Briggs.
1 *An Algonquin Maiden*. By Agnes E. Wetherald and G. Mercer Adam.

The Schools of Greater Britain, by John Russell, F. E. T. S., F. R. Historical society, furnishes an excellent idea of the educational systems of the British colonies and India and should be in the hands of every school officer and person desirous of comparing our own school system with those of the other colonies. Published by William Collins, Sons & Co., and for sale at McMillan's, Price 90 cents.

Robert Buchanan's new novel, *The Heir of Innis*, is published in pamphlet form by the National Publishing company, Toronto, and for sale in this city (price 30 cents) by Alfred Morrissey. It is a striking story, only marred by the introduction of one of the impossible Americans that English writers delight to picture.

Wide Awake for June is a delightful magazine. This number, fresher and brighter than ever, begins the 27th volume. The illustrations are numerous, varied and good; the contributions are up to the standard. Edward Everett Hale writes very interestingly of the Story of Boston Common, Two Hundred and Fifty Years Ago. The frontispiece is an admirable piece of work, showing the original polo players, Plucky Small and Double Roses, two bright serials are begun, and the short stories are very entertaining, one of them, "Eurania's Boys," being a charming production by Margaret Sidney. Published by D. Lothrop company, Boston. Price 20 cents.

A new book by Robert Louis Stevenson is about to be published by Scribners under the title of *The Black Arrow: A Tale of the Two Roses*. The story is full of the atmosphere of adventure, and is one of the strongest pieces of romantic writing ever done by Mr. Stevenson. Twelve full-page illustrations by Will H. Low and Alfred Brummitt are to put forth both in cloth and paper form.

Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett's sparkling story of *A Fair Barbarian*, pronounced by many to be the best of this author's mature works, has just been added by the Scribners to their paper-covered books by popular authors.

Notes and Announcements.
Mrs. Burnett, Robert Louis Stevenson, H. H. Boyesen, and H. C. Bunner are among the authors represented by stories in the "Yellow Cover series" of paper-covered books to be issued by the Scribners during the summer.

A limited edition of the correspondence between Wagner and Liszt, translated by Francis Hueffer, will soon be issued by Messrs. Scribner & Welford. In the original German it has been one of the notable books of the year.

A new collection of short stories by H. C. Bunner is announced for early publication by the Scribners.

A new work by Prof. G. P. Fisher, entitled *Manual of Christian Evidences*, is to be issued shortly by Charles Scribner's Sons. Prof. Fisher has already given proof in former works of his great ability as a defender of the Christian faith, and his new volume cannot but arouse the deepest interest.

Prof. Drummond, the author of *Natural Law in the Spiritual World* is just about to publish, through Messrs. Scribner & Welford, a new book, entitled: *Tropical Africa*. It will contain an account of the author's recent travels in Central Africa, with one or two chapters of natural history, and notes regarding the latest phases of the slave trade, and African politics generally.

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES.

Presbyterian.

The Presbytery of Halifax will apply to the General Assembly for leave to receive as a minister of the church the honorable and Rev. Reynolds Morston, son of the Earl of Ducie and brother of the present Earl. The late Earl will be remembered as an earnest christian who took a deep and active interest in evangelistic work in London and elsewhere. He was a special friend of Jay of Bath. Mr. Morston is one of six brothers. One of his sisters is Lady Alice Havelock. Mr. Morston entered the British navy in 1849, and took part in the Burmese and Crimean campaigns. He was contemporary with Admiral Lyons, the Admiral on this station. Admiral Dundas who was commander-in-chief of the Naval forces some time was Mr. Morston's uncle. Mr. Morston left active service about 24 years ago, and retired with the rank of Post Captain twelve or thirteen years ago. He came to the United States over eight years since, and was ordained a minister of the Presbyterian church by the Presbytery of Fort Dodge, Iowa. For six years he laboured in Iowa; then in Chicago; then for two years in Norfolk, Virginia. Before coming to America he was identified for seven years with the work of the Midway Mission, London,—he having succeeded Rev. W. Pennefather in charge of this great work. Impaired health constrained him to seek change of climate and of work. He has been engaged in spiritual work for the past 25 years.

Church of England.

At the morning and evening services in St. John's church last Sunday, hymns were sung illustrative of the history of Psalmody in the Christian church. The hymns sung and the periods of history which they illustrate are given below:—

The Early Church: (a) "O Jesus, Lord of heavenly grace,"
(No. 21 in H. C.)—Translation by the Rev. John Chandler from the Latin of Ambrose, Bishop Milan (340-288) the reputed author of the "72 Psalm tones," and the creator of the hymnology.

(b) "The day is past and over,"
(No. 22 in H. C.)—Translated by Neale from a Greek hymn usually assigned to Amantios, patriarch of Constantinople, (438).

The Medieval Church: "Day of wrath, O day of mourning!"
(No. 63 in H. C.)—Translation by Dr. Innes from the Latin hymn, *Diei Iure, diei illi*, probably written by Thomas of Celano, in the 13th century.

The Reformation: "A safe stronghold our God is still,"
Translated by Thomas Carlyle, in the year 1831, from the chorale, "Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott," written by Luller (1483-1546), who also composed the tune.

The Seventeenth Century: "When all thy mercies, O my God,"
(No. 497 in H. C.)—Written by Joseph Addison, writer and statesman (1672-1719).

The Eighteenth Century: "Jesus, lover of my soul,"
(No. 140 in H. C.)—Written by the Rev. Charles Wesley, the chief hymn writer of the great evangelical revival, born 1708, died 1788.

The Nineteenth Century: "Just as I am without one plea,"
(No. 138 in H. C.)—Written by Miss Charlotte Elliott, of Brighton, born 1781.

The rector, Rev. John de Soyres, preached on church music in the evening.

Methodist.

Somebody with the above cognomen ("A Methodist layman") writes a letter to the *St. John Sun* in criticism of one of the sermons preached at the recent convention, and of the manner of conducting the convention, and of holiness as presented by the brethren there. Signing a fictitious name under such circumstances shows cowardice. The spirit of the letter shows bitterness. The argument shows ignorance. The whole letter is a clear demonstration that his *nom de plume* is a misnomer. Whatever else it is, he is no Methodist. Otherwise he would not have taught sanctification by growth and development.—*Boston Christian Witness.*

A MAN OF THE PEOPLE.

A SHORT BIOGRAPHY OF HIS LORDSHIP BISHOP SWEENEY.

The Works of His Life Have Been Many and Great.—The Welfare of His People, His First Consideration—The Jubilee Address and Charity Hospital.

The portrait of Bishop Sweeney given below is the first likeness of his Lordship which has appeared in any journal. The biography which accompanies it aims not at minuteness—it would take pages in that case—but to collect and note the important events in the life of this man who has done so much for the city in which he was reared, educated, and has lived.

Everyone knows Bishop Sweeney. He is a man of the people. Bred with them, taught with them, he is loved by the people of the Roman Catholic church and respected and honored by those of other denominations. His friends are legion, his enemies few, if any. From the day he became Bishop of St. John his aim has been the good of his people and the advancement of his church. Thousands will bear testimony to the grandness of his labor among the poor and scores of handsome buildings and towering spires are some evidence of



RIGHT REV. JOHN SWEENEY, D. D.

the success of his work for the church. Today he has in hand another noble effort, the completion of that fine brick structure on Sydney street, which is popularly known as the Charity hospital. It was begun quietly, and week by week the building is nearing completion, every move being under the direct care of the bishop. His plans concerning the uses to which the building will be put have not been fully divulged, but it is believed that the needy sick and afflicted will never be left neglected. It will be a charity hospital in the main, devoted to the alleviation of death-bed suffering. Such an undertaking is worthy of the support of the whole church, and nobly has it been supported. Another grand effort will be made this fall to raise the remainder of the building money, and there is no doubt but it will come to hand all right.

Bishop Sweeney was not born in St. John, but in county Tyrone, Ireland. When his father, Mr. James Sweeney, came to St. John his son, who was but a boy, accompanied him, and from the time he set foot in the new hemisphere he began to display those habits of industry and application which have helped his advancement, and, with native ability, placed him in his proud position of today.

His education was begun in the old grammar school, where he attended many years, and gained a thorough preparation for more advanced studies pursued in later days at college. These he pursued at St. Dunstan's college, P. E. Island for a time, after which he went to Quebec, where, after continued and hard study, he graduated in 1844. That same year he took priest's orders, and returning to St. John, was stationed here by Bishop Dollard.

Sussex, Chatham and Barachois knew him in later years. He was located in Barachois when called to the episcopate. Bishop Connolly appointed him vicar-general, and while holding this office, he preached before the Halifax council. He visited Rome in 1866, in 1870, when he attended the vatican council, and in 1881. When New Brunswick was divided into two dioceses, Vicar-General Sweeney was consecrated bishop and given charge of the southern diocese. This was in 1860, 25 years ago. There are hundreds in the city who remember the day and occasion of his consecration. It took place on Low Sunday, April 15, and Rev. Dr. Connelly, archbishop of Halifax, performed the ceremony, assisted by the bishops of Boston, Portland, Me., and Archat, N. S.

No place knows Bishop Sweeney so well as his native city, which year after year has seen the fruit of his great and successful labors. The visible results are many and substantial. Since he assumed charge, it can be said that the cathedral has been completed and ornamented. The last word implies much, for no structure in the country presents a more beautiful or attractive interior, or is more comfortable.

In the first days of his ministry, the Ladies of the Sacred Heart and the Sisters of Charity occupied low wooden buildings. All is changed now, and the former's convent is one of the most structures in St. John; the latter occupy handsome and commodious brick buildings, which allow them to widen their sphere of usefulness. In addition to this, the palace has been erected, and the splendid structures known as St. Malachi's and St. Joseph's school buildings.

Several buildings in Portland and Carleton can be pointed as evidences of his energetic interest in everything which was for the people's good. One of his greatest works in this respect was the establishment of St. Patrick's Industrial school in 1880.

His great, completed works of later years are the magnificent edifices in Portland and the church of St. John the Baptist in Lower Cove.

So much has been said of his Lordship's regard for the welfare of his people that *PROGRESS* will cite but a few instances. The most successful of his schemes are the prosperous settlements in Johnville in Carleton county and St. Paul's in Kent county. Hundreds of poor men who found it difficult to eke out an existence in the city, now possess happy homes in these places.

the memory of the immortal Pius IX. for having appointed over us one not only worthy of our obedience and reverence as a prelate of the church, but in his own person eminently deserving of all our love and fidelity. May God require to you even a hundred fold the benefits your Episcopal administration has lavished on us!

We have witnessed today in a spirit of joy and triumph the imposing ceremony of the solemn consecration in all the splendor of the church's ritual, of this noble temple. We congratulate your Lordship on this happy and festive solemnity so near to your own heart.

You have often spoken with love of your illustrious predecessor in this See. We would fain believe his spirit is present here now amongst us. The vision of his serene head rises to the minds of many here today, and you would think us ingenuous and unjust, if we failed on this occasion, to offer a tribute of gratitude to his memory.

And now, my Lord, we take the liberty of offering for your acceptance, along with this address, this purse as a faint and inadequate expression of our esteem and affection. May you continue in the high place you now occupy for many years—years which we know will, if granted, be like those that have preceded them and that now go to make up your Silver Jubilee, not only golden, taken year by year, but each one composed of golden days and hours.

Signed on behalf of the Cathedral congregation, R. J. HERRICK, CHARLES WATERS, CHARLES DORRERT, JAMES REYNOLDS, RICHARD O'BRIEN, R. F. QUIGLEY.

The Portland Address.

To Right Reverend John Sweeney, Bishop of St. John.

MY LORD,—
On behalf of the Catholics of Portland, we beg to tender your Lordship our sincere congratulations on this the 25th anniversary of your consecration as bishop of St. John. It is with deepest feelings of devotion towards your Lordship, and gratitude for all the good you have done, that the Catholics of Portland look back upon the many years your Lordship has been connected with them, both as priest and bishop, and that they see in their own parish, as well as all through the diocese, the fruits of your untiring energy and zeal during the 25 years of your successful administration. The temples erected everywhere, the many useful foundations for the good of the poor and the orphan will bear forever testimony of your Lordship's solicitude for the poor of your flock and perpetrate your memory in this country.

We appreciate also your noble efforts in the great cause of education, and shall always gratefully remember how you have striven to insure to our children the benefits of religious training, which alone can make them good, law-abiding citizens in this world, and secure their happiness in the next.

We seize also this opportunity to thank your Lordship for having placed in charge of this parish, the zealous priests of the Redemption order, whose unceasing efforts and anxious care for the spiritual welfare of the parishioners, have fully justified the wisdom of your choice.

Our prayers will ascend constantly to heaven to ask God to reward your Lordship's labors here and hereafter, and to grant us the blessing that your Lordship's life may yet be long preserved for the good of your spiritual children.

Signed on behalf of committee, R. V. DEBURY, Chairman, JOHN CONNOR, Secretary.

Bishop Sweeney has been described as of medium stature and of slight build. Although he has reached his 67th year, the only sign of age is a sprinkling of gray through his hair. He walks with an elastic but deliberate step. His voice is low but exceedingly clear and sweet in its tone, and when he occupies the pulpit of the cathedral, can be heard distinctly in every portion of the large building. No bishop in this diocese has ever before so thoroughly won and retained the confidence of his people. He is respected by the great and lowly alike, and meets out even handed justice to all. Although somewhat reticent he is like most of his countrymen, a good conversationalist and an excellent and forcible preacher. The office of bishop requires good executive and administrative ability. Both of these Bishop Sweeney possesses in a large degree and to these are due a great share of his success.

THE HIRED MAN.

I give my time, my song, my life to Toil,
My brow of bronze, my arms of brown are hers;
For her alone each willing muscle strives;
For her I guide the plough and delve the land,
For her my brow is wet, my face is stained,
Sweet Labor, brown-checked as the chestnut
buds—
Thy lightest law my lagging spirit spurs,
And under hard and burden bids me stand.
So, in thy name the old line fence I scale,
Just where the whispering maple shades the
place;
I mount the pulpit with the softest rail,
And let the light winds fan my patient face;
And there, where birds and moments idly fit—
It, and sit, and sit, and sit, and sit.
—Brooklyn Eagle.

When called by God to the responsibilities of the Episcopal office, you did not fly from the labors and anxieties of the priesthood; you sought a higher field for the exercise of its powers and the consecration of its trials. The apostolic work you have since performed bears ample testimony to the manner in which you have dedicated the precious gifts of your episcopacy to the service of God, the propagation of His truth, and the spiritual and temporal well-being of your flock. On every side, in every locality, throughout your diocese, new missions have been formed, churches erected, colleges, convents and schools established.

But your Lordship has especially claim on the love and affections of this congregation, which we acknowledge with profound gratitude. The long term of your pastorate over us, the unremitting devotion with which you have labored for our welfare, the zeal with which you have taught us the great truths of our holy religion, the simple dignity of character you have shown, have won for you an affectionate reverence and regard. The fruits of your zeal cluster thick around you—the magnificent convents and schools you have founded and built, the religious and charitable societies you have organized and the new churches recently erected—all these form indeed a mighty monument of a great life, of your constant, effective and unvarying labors; but there is a memorial even nobler, even more lasting, which is enshrined in the memories and in the very souls of us your children, your friends.

Twenty-five years spent in the Episcopate of the Catholic church are indeed years to be contemplated with a grave and reverent mind. They are years that cannot have passed away and left an inconspicuous record behind them. Their record on the contrary, contains many things that are of vast import. Words and actions that have affected the lives of many alive today, and that have also affected the lives of hundreds of souls now gone before the judgment seat of God. It is given to few, as it has been given to your Lordship, to determine by their teaching and example the happiness in time and eternity of thousands. In proportion, then, to the influence you have wielded may be your joy at the thought that it has been employed so as to have been everywhere the source of countless blessings. We beg, my Lord, to express in this manner our sense of what your career as a Bishop has been, of the privilege we have enjoyed in having now for so long lived as your spiritual children, and of the gratitude we owe

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