

prepare the Ascensiontide Appeal and to send it to the Secretary before the 21st March next. A letter from the Rev. C. H. Brooks, applying for work under the Board in the Levant, was read, and the Board regretted, although sympathizing with the position described by the writer, it had not the funds at its disposal to comply with Mr. Brooks' request. The meeting adjourned to meet in Kingston April 28th, and was dismissed by the Chairman with the benediction.

### Books and Periodicals Department

*The Story of the Nations, Canada.* By J. G. Bourinot, C.M.G., LL.D., D.C.L., Clerk of the Canadian House of Commons, etc. London: T. Fisher Unwin; Toronto: The Copp, Clark Co., Ltd.

Dr. Bourinot has done exactly what was expected of him, viz., he has told the story of Canada,—and a very interesting story it is. He does not weary the reader with any long disquisitions of his own but simply addresses himself to the narration of events as they unfold themselves from the earliest days of Canada down to the "makers of the Dominion," whose work extended from 1867 to 1891. The dawn of discovery in Canada lasting from 1497 to 1525 is followed by the story of Jacques Cartier and De Monts, covering Quebec and Nova Scotia, 1534-1603. Then we learn of Acadia and Port Royal, (Nova Scotia), and of Samuel Champlain in the valley of the St. Lawrence, of the Canadian Indians and the humbled Iroquois, of the fur traders and Coureurs de Bois making their way from old Quebec to the distant west, of Louisbourg and Fort Duquesne, of Canada, won by Wolfe on the Plains of Abraham, of Pontiac and his bravery, of the American Revolution and the death of Montgomery, of the U. E. Loyalists and the foundation of new provinces, of the heroic war of 1812 followed by political strife and the rebellion of 1837, of separate provincial governments leading up to Confederation in 1867 followed by the development of the North-West and British Columbia and various "national events" consequent upon it. A number of valuable and quaint maps of early days, plans, portraits, costumes and other illustrations are scattered throughout the work and greatly enhance its value. The Copp, Clark Co., Toronto, are the Canadian publishers of this pleasing and useful book.

*The Warden of the Plains.* By John McLean. Toronto: William Briggs, Wesley Buildings.

These are stories of cowboys, Indians, fur traders and the like in the North-West, written by a gentleman evidently conversant with all things that he undertakes to describe. The prairies, ranches, hunting and trapping grounds of the distant west, such places as Alberta and Saskatchewan abound with people of strange and unique character. A life is lived there totally different from the lives spent in the midst of Eastern civilization. There is vice there as well as in the East. There is meanness; there is revenge,—there are all the plays of human passion. There is charity and there is religion,—but all that is different,—in many cases strikingly different from what goes on in the midst of a more civilized community. In "The Warden of the Plains" we have the picture of a rough and unlettered cowboy whose heart has been touched by Christian power. He preaches to his fellow cowboys in his own quaint way, and they listen to him with respect and with a certain amount of wonder. He prays with them and helps them in distress and when his own means fail he "takes up a collection," putting a case

so touchingly that the rough lads come down with their dollars and make the hat that is passed around jingle with substantial aid for some "poor Jim" or "unfortunate Sam" whose strength has failed him. The stories are very interesting and leave behind a good, wholesome impression.

*Snap Shots from Boy Life.* By F. T. C. O'Hara. Toronto: William Briggs.

Books of advice to boys and young men are numerous, but not always interesting or in such form as to catch and keep the attention of those for whom they were intended. The present book, however, "Snap Shots from Boy Life" is full of sound advice and is presented in a form that is likely to be read. The chapters are short and are printed in attractive form, heavily leaded and supplied with ornamental initial letters. Boys, to say nothing of grown-up people, need these things. There are twenty-four of these "snap shots" beginning with "Being a Boy" and ending with "Be Happy," and in between such subjects as letter writing, how to study, cultivating the memory, self dependence and the like are well and judiciously treated. This book would be a useful present to make to a boy.

*The New Century Review.* Ludgate Circus, or 26 Paternoster Square, London, E.C.

The second number (February) of this new periodical is a worthy successor of the initial issue, though Mr. A. W. Hutton will find many who will not agree with him in his view of "Anglican Orders and the Future of Anglicanism." He does not admit the ancient status of the Church of England but grants that she is "*facile princeps* among the Reformed Churches." Arthur Griffiths gives a pleasing article on "The Real Wellington," in which he mentions many happy reminiscences of the "iron Duke." In "A Septet of Stories," Clementia Black gives a healthy criticism on seven recent novels, such as "The Story of Hannah" and "An Uncrowned King" and the like. "The Growth of the Speakership," by J. G. Swift MacNeill, M.P., will be found entertaining to those interested in Parliamentary affairs. We trust that this new *Review* will meet with the success that it deserves. A good serial tale might aid its popularity.

*The Homiletic Review.* New York and Toronto: Funk and Wagnalls.

*The Homiletic Review* for February keeps up the pace set by the January number. It does not resort to syndicates and the scissors for cheap matter, but goes directly to the great authoritative thinkers and writers and secures from them their best thoughts on all the burning questions of the day, in which the preacher is supremely interested. In this way its articles are always original, timely, and of living interest. A special feature of the Seed-Thought Section, entitled "Sermonic Illustration from Current Life"—will furnish just what preachers without number are calling for, as evidenced by such subjects as "Sermon Topics Suggested," "A Half Dozen Hints for Young Sermonizers," "Side Lights from Scripture Metaphors," and "Seed-Thoughts for Sermons and Public Discourses."

(1) *The Sunday at Home*, (2) *The Leisure Hour*, (3) *The Boys' Own Paper*, (4) *The Girls' Own Paper*, (5) *Sunday Hours for Boys and Girls*. The Religious Tract Society, 56 Paternoster Row, E.C.

"Jacob Blessing Pharaoh" is a beautiful colored picture as a frontispiece to the February *Sunday at Home*. The tales and articles are of the usual interest and