

caturist, we recognize a powerful and skilful touch. The ordinary stock writer would have been incapable of depicting the scene in which he allows his love for (Enone. The mixture of true feeling with unconscious charlatany is admirably treated, and, though the chapter progresses in interest throughout, it never becomes really sensational.

The book derives its name from the part borne by spirits in the discovery of a lost will of Sir Rupert Lowry. These 'tricksy sprites,' with Dr. Flagge's help to guide their vaticinations (for our author is decidedly a disbeliever in spiritualistic experiences), lead Sir Cosmo Lowry and his wife a fine dance in pursuit of a handsome competency which had been left away from him by his father. Very cleverly is it shown how the baronet's greedy nature gradually impels him to follow the lead of his coarser and more vigorous-minded wife, and from a sceptic to become, if not a believer, yet, at any rate, an obedient follower of the mysterious guidances vouchsafed to him by means of knocking tables, clairvoyant trances, and dubiously authenticated visions. Few characters in recent fiction have such a clear personality as Lady Lowry, a vulgar country girl, of an eminently commonplace mind, whose paltry and petty nature, with all its meannesses, is thinly varnished over by a superficial education in those accomplishments which simply serve to draw attention to the entire absence of real ladylike feeling in her heart. In one sense how true is the remark her character calls forth from Captain Peppiatt: "The power of stupidity is an awful force in this world. Now Cosmo has some brains, and that puts him at an immense disadvantage with his wife. Oh, by Jove, when you get pure, unalloyed stupidity like Lady Lowry's, it's an awful power! It's Heaven's own mercy that it's generally adulterated with a gleam or two of intelligence, or I don't know what would become of us! There is a great deal of talk about the intellectual development of women, —but if the sex knew where real power lies, they'd try to be stupid."

'We have said enough to show that we have formed a high opinion of this book, and we are sure that those of our readers who follow our advice and buy it, will thank us for directing their attention to a humorous work, written in good style and language, and bearing a wholesome moral in anything but a medicinal form.

HISTORY OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA AND OTHER PARTS OF BRITISH AMERICA. Montreal: Lovell Printing and Publishing Company.

This is a revised edition of the well-known School History in Lovell's series. It is em-

bellished with new plates, and the course of events has been traced downward down to the year 1873. It is scarcely necessary to give an extended notice of a manual which has been so widely circulated. The arrangement of the work under separate Provinces is preferable to the plan which endeavours to carry on the entire history simultaneously and synchronously. Then again the division of the chapters into numbered paragraphs with side-headings is exceedingly convenient. The body of the work, so far as we have examined it, appears to be accurate both in facts and dates; the engravings also are much superior to those in the previous edition, besides being increased in number. It would be a great advantage, if in future editions, small maps were added, somewhat on the scale of the battle-plans already inserted. By some oversight the name of Lord Monck is omitted from the list of Governors, and it might be well if a list of the Intendants of Quebec under the French *regime* were given.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

UNIVERSITY CONSOLIDATION.: A plea for Higher Education in Ontario. By Canadensis. Reprinted from "Belford's Magazine," with extensive additions. Toronto: Hunter, Rose, & Co. 1877.*

THE FAMILY DOOM; OR, THE SIN OF A COUNTRY. By Mrs. Emma D. E. N. Southworth. Toronto: Belford Bros. 1877.

ANECDOTES AND ILLUSTRATIONS OF D. L. MOODY; Related by him in his Revival Work. Compiled by Rev. J. B. McClure. Toronto: Belford Bros. 1877.

THE THEORY OF ART, AND SOME OBJECTIONS TO UTILITARIANISM. By Guy D. Daly, M. D. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1877. Paper.

POPULAR SAYINGS FROM OLD IBERIA. By Aitiaiche and Fieldat. Quebec: Dawson & Co. 1877. Paper.

THE CRUISE OF HER MAJESTY'S SHIP "CHALLENGER." By W. J. J. Spry, R.N. With Map and Illustrations. Toronto: Belford Bros. 1877.

OCEAN TO OCEAN. Sanford Fleming's Expedition through Canada, in 1872. By the Rev. George M. Grant. Enlarged and revised edition. Illustrated. Toronto: Belford Bros. 1877.

A VINDICATION OF THEOLOGY: Being an address to Theological Students. By J. Clark Murray, LL.D., Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy, McGill College, Montreal. Montreal: Dawson Bros. 1877.

ACROSS AFRICA. By Verney Lovett Cameron, C. B., D. C. L. With numerous Illustrations. New York: Harper Bros. 1877.

NORA'S LOVE TEST. A Novel. By Mary Cecil Hay. New York: Harper Bros. 1877.

HARPER'S HALF-HOUR SERIES. Tales from Shakespeare. By Charles and Mary Lamb. I. Tragedies. II. Comedies. New York: Harper Bros. 1877.