

Imar took the young Englishman into his confidence and told him his history, shortly before he returned to his Lesghian home among the mountains. A roving captain Strogue, who had been in the Caucasus, informed Cranleigh that the prince's twin sister, Marva, a woman of great beauty, strength of character and wickedness, had plotted to seize the Lesghian throne and put her son upon it. Thereupon Cranleigh organized a small expedition, which arrived upon the Oriental scene too late to save her victims from imprisonment, but in time to perform deeds of daring, whereby they were rescued and the villains destroyed. Cranleigh was rewarded with the hand of Dariel. The first part of the tale has the well-known flavor of Blackmore's English rustics and the scenery that corresponds, but the author does bravely also in the distant Caucasus, making an interesting, even an exciting, tale of adventure worthy of the days of chivalry.

Some robber has gone off with my copy of "Quo Vadis," by Henryk Sienkiewicz, and, being a minister of the Gospel, I cannot even anathematize him. It is a story of the time of Nero, whose court and surroundings are accurately described. It centres round the loves of a Roman patrician and relative of Petronius Arbiter on the one hand, and a Christian Polish princess, who is a Roman hostage, on the other. The tale itself is well-told, and is well-fitted to interest, but its chief value lies in the realistic picture, even to minute details, which it gives of the Roman life of the time. Another of Sienkiewicz's books is "With Fire and Sword, An Historical Novel of Poland and Russia, 1648-1651." It is translated by Jeremiah Curtin, and its 772 pages and 9 illustrations are published in Toronto by Mr. George N. Morang. It is a love story, of course, and the lovers are the Princess Helena and Pan Yan Skshetnski, who have adventures enough to fill a life-time. But the Falstaffian, yet brave and loyal, Zagloba, full of wit and good humor, the simple minded Lithuanian of the big sword and the virgin soul, named Poddipienta, and the terrible Bogun, are but a few of the many well-known characters, whose presence and deeds light up this