

courage is a great virtue, and it does a British boy no harm to know, by tales so well told by Mr. Fitchett, that, although his race has no monopoly of it, no other has excelled it in the exhibition of that manly attribute.

Still another of Mr. Chapman's books is "Concerning Isabel Carnaby," by Ellen Thorneycroft Fowler, 360 pages, 8vo., paper, The Toronto News Company, price fifty cents. This is a decidedly clever and well told story of an accomplished and really witty, as well as beautiful, young society woman of high connections, who is sought in marriage by the son of a pious Methodist minister. This Paul Seaton gains distinction as an author, and Isabel accepts him, but afterwards, growing tired of his masterful way, regains her liberty and writes a vicious book called "Shams and Shadows," the odium of which Paul takes on his shoulders to his no little detriment. Isabel repents, and all comes out well in the end. The religion of the good old Methodist couple, their daughter Joanna, and that humorous character, the domestic Martha, is very genuine, and contrasts well with the general worldliness of the story. The author must herself be a very ingenious and subtle thinker to make her heroine talk as cleverly as she does, and must have had wide experience of several different sides of life, all of which she is able to appreciate with a delicate but rare charity. Isabel Carnaby is not a book to read merely for the sake of the story, but as a part of a polite education. Its conversations sparkle with epigrammatic gems and witty turns of thought, more genuine and natural by far than those of George Meredith. It is also the work of a truly religious woman, and she shows how one may be in the world without being of it, which is a lesson well worth learning. It is the greatest mistake in the world to think that a man or woman must lose religion by going into society. Religious people, unless they are uncharitable, dull and priggish, are far more respected in the best society than shallow worldlings; and the person who is most despised is the one who sinks his religious convictions in order to get into a fashionable set. Untrue to God is untrue to all. Put no confidence in that man.

I have just received from Mr. James Croil two numbers