

Talks about Books.

JUDGE PRINGLE'S name is a household word in eastern Ontario. Deeply interested in all kinds of religious and benevolent work, he is also an elder in the session of St. John's Church, Cornwall. By the bye, that was a good idea of our older congregations to call their churches by the names of the apostles and evangelists. The later Knox and Melville, Erskine, Cooke, Chalmers, and Guthrie churches savour of semi-insular narrowness, sectarian bigotry, and unecclesiastical bad taste. There may be Luther and Melancthon, Zwingle and Ecolampadius, Calvin and Beza, churches on the continent of Europe, but if so I have neither seen nor heard of them, and don't want to. While yielding to none in honouring our great men living or departed, I contend that it is enough to make the angels weep to find sections of the Church Universal, built up upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, meeting in buildings called by the names of Burns, Willis, and Caven. Thank God there are no MacVicar, Grant, MacKnight, or King churches, and pray God there never may be. The kind of hero worship that will put a local stamp upon the Church of the Living God would paint Warner's Safe Cure on the Pyramids and Pears' Soap on the Vatican. Call a church if you will by the name of the street in which it is situated in order to localize it : that is quite permissible : but do not shut it out from the universal fellowship of the saints by a name that stands for a shibboleth. "I am of Paul" says one, and "I, of Apollos," says another, and "I, of Cephas," cries a third : a little less of this, and more of Christ who was crucified for us ! What is the reality of our union, if we still in name keep up our invidious distinctions ; what, the value of our boasted catholicity, when nominally we are as national as a St. Andrew's Society, as sectarian as an Orange lodge ? But, to return to Judge Pringle, who is in no wise responsible for this outbreak : he adds to his other claims for consideration that of authorship. "Lunenburg or the Old Eastern District, its settlement and early progress, with personal recollections of the Town of Cornwall from 1824" is a large, well printed and bound, octavo volume of 420 pages,