

*The Two Knapsacks*, a story of Canadian summer life. By J. CAWDER BELL. Price \$1.00. Toronto: The Williamson Book Co.

We do not know who J. Cawder Bell is, but he or she has written a very readable book, a book that augurs well for the literary ability of our Canadian novelist. Eugene Constine and Farquhar Wilkinson are the "Two Knapsacks," whose rambles and adventures are the subject matter of the story. Scattered throughout the book are many admirable scenery descriptions and character dialogues. Our author is a writer of real ability, and has the "wit" to write of scenes and temperaments with which he or she is acquainted thoroughly. Hence the charm of the narrative. It is decidedly a novel to spend an idle hour with, and be well repaid for the toil; although here and there there is a slight suspicion of "padding." We must give a word of credit to the publishers for the tasty way in which they have bound the book.

*Truth in Fiction*. Twelve Tales with a Moral. By DR. PAUL CARUS. Price \$1.00. The Open Court Publishing Co., Chicago.

This is a dainty, delicate volume in which many of the ethical principles and sociological ideas that characterize the Open Court are set forth under the guise of parables. These parables are well conceived, are by no means far-fetched, and are finely wrought out. "The Highest Trump in Argument" is, for example, a keen sarcasm on the methods of the Agnostic, who, beaten in reasoning, takes refuge in the statement that "nobody knows." "After the distribution of the type" is a carefully thought-out argument for the immortality of the soul; while "The Clock, or the Watches" is a parable on the bigotry of creeds. Indeed, each of the parables or moral tales is but a philosophical idea presented under that guise. While not agreeing with all its conclusions, this book is a quaint and curious production, written in a fine literary style, one that can be dipped into and heartily enjoyed at the reader's pleasure. As an example of how to teach moral truths in the form of symbolical representation, we gladly commend this volume to our readers.

*Outlines of Bible Study for Schools and Colleges*. By G. M. STEELE, D.D., Principal of Wesleyan Academy, Wilbraham, Mass. Leach, Shewell & Sanborn, 67 Fifth Ave., New York. Cloth \$1.00.

This work is designed for a four years' course of study. The first year's course embraces patriarchal and Hebrew history from the creation to the death of Solomon, omitting or touching but lightly upon the Ceremonial Law in Exodus and Leviticus. The second year's course comprises the remainder of the Hebrew history to the captivity, together with the poetic and prophetic books. The latter are treated somewhat cursorily—that is, not taken up wholly in detail. The design is to teach the history as other history is taught, according to the best modern methods; and to teach the poetic and prophetic books somewhat after the method of studies in literature; but always remembering that the Scriptures are from God, that they are the foundation of religious faith and the basis of religious practice. The third year's course contains the life of Christ as found in the Gospels, following the chronological order. The fourth year's course embraces the propagation of the Gospel as described in the Acts of the Apostles, and as indicated in the Epistles, these being taken together in the temporal order of events.