

and this continent rejecting book-publishing by subscription. In this matter we would do well, as Matthew Arnold did, to look to France. The intrusion of the book-canvasser has become well-nigh intolerable: this, our publishers may as well acknowledge.

—The Exhibition of the Ontario Society of Artists is about the best we have had and promises well for the future. The work of a few artists will usually stand out from that of the rest, but on the present occasion the average merit is high. Nor is there what we have previously noted, a marked contrast in the success attained by the workers in water-colours and oils. This year the more difficult department is equally well represented. At its head, in figure subjects, stands Mr. G. A. Reid, with "Mortgaging the Homestead" and "The Other Side of the Question." In the latter there is perhaps too high a colour, but both are clever and show increasing power and facility. "A Study"—a profile face in shadow, with a well managed light effect falling on the neck, from the same brush, deserves praise. Mr. Forster's "The Rival Ladies' Schools" is a very amusing, clever and skilful handling of a very amusing subject, while it surmounts great technical difficulties. Miss Tully's portrait of a young girl (No. 215) shows fine treatment. The high merit of Mr. Pinhey's "Christian Martyr" suffers by being hung above the line. From the same artist we have a native historical subject (No. 156) which is vigorously treated. The figures of the Indians shooting their arrows at the passing canoes are examples of intensity of action. Mr. Forbes shows well in the likeness of "The Late Mr. Bendelari," and Miss McConnell in a strong figure (No. 229) seated in an arm-chair. Mr. W. A. Sherwood has a fine subject, cleverly treated, in the Rev. Dr. Scadding. Mr. Cutts is also well represented in the portrait No. 239. In landscapes, perhaps the best in the gallery is Mr. Bell-Smith's "Dulse Gatherers in the Bay of Fundy." The fog effect is capitally rendered,