

"The Warden of the Plains," or the cow-boy preacher, by Dr. Maclean, is a very graphic sketch of Canadian prairie life. A noble character study of "St. Paul, the Missionary," throws much light on the Sunday-school lessons for the year. A well illustrated account of the gold fields of Ontario, and up-to-date departments of the World's Progress, Current Thought, Popular Science and the like, make up a splendid number.

This magazine should circulate much more largely in schools than it does. It already goes to many schools, and has been taken year after year in numbers from two to as high as forty. For this purpose it is given at \$1.60 a year, the cheapest reading schools can get—always fresh and varied. Give it a trial and you will not be without it. Now is the time to subscribe. Send orders to Rev. William Briggs, Toronto; C. W. Coates, Montreal; or, Rev. S. F. Huestis, Halifax.

The Historic Episcopate.*

BY THE REV. T. G. WILLIAMS, D.D.

SOMETIMES a great service is rendered by doing that which to some may appear unnecessary. The boldness and persistence with which some Anglicans present what they call "The Historic Episcopate" demands refutation, or by mere repetition unchallenged the unwary may be misled.

Since Leo XIII. has so rudely, yet truthfully, denied the claim of the Church of England to a valid ministry on their own theory, we may expect that the Historic Episcopate sham will be pressed with new vigour. It is really the old "Apostolic Succession" claim with a new name, re-baptized because of the known absurdity of the old name.

Dr. Cooke, with judicial fairness, tries this Ecclesiastical "Tichborne Claimant." After a knowledge of the romantic claim of this Historic Episcopate action one might say, "They might have been passed by in silence if they had not appealed to history." To the bar of history Dr. Cooke takes them, and by the touch of that Ithuriel spear lays prone in the dust this new claimant to historical endorsement.

After reading this calm, cogent and masterly refutation of the claims of the Anglicans, one's wonder increases that any could so warp his judgment as to accept their theory, or so fortify himself as to openly profess a belief in that which is simply an affront to all reliable and unbiased history.

*The "Historic Episcopate," by Rev. Dr. Cooke. New York: Eaton & Main.

The following vital questions are among those discussed by Dr. Cooke:

"Was Archbishop Parker ever formally consecrated, or was he 'created' an Archbishop by Queen Elizabeth's mandate alone?"

"What is the historical value of the documents on which the validity of the processes by which it is claimed Parker was consecrated in harmony with canon law is established?"

"What are the probabilities regarding the much vaunted Lambeth Register? Is it one of the many forgeries of that age?"

"The illegality of the Edwardine Ordinal by which it is claimed Dr. Parker was consecrated."

The book is strong throughout, the argument conclusive, and the historical evidence crushing. It grinds the Historic Episcopate into an impalpable powder. Chapter 8, on the ordination of Wesley by a Greek bishop, and 9, on the Episcopal ordination of Dr. Coke, contain much interesting information and exhibit fine dialectic skill, but do not tend to materially strengthen the attitude taken by Methodism regarding the validity of our ordination, which rests upon the Scriptural identity of presbyter and bishop as an ecclesiastical order. The book is a valuable contribution at the present moment, and should be read by every searcher after truth regarding this matter.

New Sunday-school Books.

THE Wesleyan Conference Office, London, under the able management of the Rev. Chas. Kelly, issues the best and cheapest series of Sunday-school books that we know. They are illustrated with life-like sketches by Mr. Tressider, and are of special interest to Methodist readers as being largely on Methodist themes. They can be placed without hesitancy in all our Sunday-school libraries, which is more than can be said of some other so-called Sunday-school books. Our Book Rooms at Toronto, Montreal and Halifax keep full lines of these admirable issues. Among the recent issues are the following:

What he did for Convicts and Cannibals. Some account of the life and work of the Rev. Samuel Leigh, the first Wesleyan Missionary to New South Wales and New Zealand. By ANNIE E. KEELING. London: Charles H. Kelly. Toronto: William Briggs.

The story of Methodist missions in Australia and New Zealand is one of thrilling interest. So degraded were the man-eating New Zealanders that they knew not the properties of boiling water, and, endeavouring to steal meat out of a pot, exclaimed that the water had bitten their hands. But the missionary's