

positive creed is "Lord, I believe; help thou my unbelief."

The eclipse of faith well-nigh crushes the sturdy, heroic nature. Through a serious illness and the spell of the simple, trusting, unalterable faith of a good woman, whose love he wins he is saved from despair.

However truly the book may describe the fanatical bigotry of the Kentucky wilderness of fifty years ago, it is a perfect travesty on any religious convictions anywhere held at the present time. It is an elaborate conflict with a man of straw at whom the writer threshes to his heart's content.

Unclearned Bread. By ROBERT GRANT. Author of "The Bachelor's Christmas," etc. The Copp, Clark Company, Toronto. Pp. 431. Price, \$1.25; paper, 75 cents.

Most story tellers are satisfied with guiding their heroine to one marriage. Mr. Grant is more generous, he conducts Selma White, a lady who bears "a worried archangel look" in her face, to three. The book is a clever caricature of modern social life. Selma White is a sort of American Becky Sharpe, possessed, like Thackeray's famous character, with an invincible purpose to "get on" in the world, while not specially particular as to the means. In her first mercenary marriage she becomes mistress of a gaudy house, but finds that discontent seethes in her soul because she cannot mingle socially with the Brahmin caste. Her next venture is a New York architect who sacrifices his ideals to make money that his wife may spend it in ostentatious display. His death leaves Selma free to marry an ambitious politician who reaches the goal of his wife's ambition by becoming Senator.

Without Dogma. By HENRYK SIENKIEWICZ. Author of "With Fire and Sword," "The Deluge," etc. Translated from the Polish by Iza Young. Toronto: George N. Morang & Co. Pp. xi-423.

This book might be called "Without Conscience." The unheroic hero is a selfish egotist who not merely is not restrained by any religious "dogma" or convictions, but throws all scruples to the wind and says "There is only one logic in the world—the logic of passions." His character and conduct are in harmony with his theory. If he be designed as a type of a neurotic degenerate, the pro-

duct of over-civilization—all nerves and aesthetics with no ethics—it is a success; not otherwise. Our immoral aesthete finds life intolerable, is continually meditating suicide, and at last dies of despair. The morbid pessimism of the book is a translation into modern phrase of the words of the Preacher, "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity." It shows what a derelict upon the sea of life is a man without the faith in the eternal lodestar of Right and Duty.

Educational Review. Canadian History No. 11. G. U. HAY, Esq., Publisher, St. John, N.B. Price, 10 cents, quarterly.

Dr. Harvey, of St. John's, Newfoundland, contributes to this number an admirable paper on Newfoundland of today; Dr. Bailey one on the geology of the Bay of Fundy; Rev. W. A. Raymond a touching story of the first martyr of the Canadian mission.

LITERARY NOTES.

We have received the first number of the *Labour Gazette*, issued by the Department of Labour for the nominal sum of twenty cents a year for an octavo pamphlet of forty pages. It is based upon the Conciliation Act of 1900, an act whose purpose it is to aid the prevention and settlement of trade disputes, and for publishing industrial information. We are glad to know that in all Government contracts an anti-sweating regulation is introduced, fair wages schedules are enforced, and voluntary conciliation arbitration strongly urged. We regard this whole movement as the prophecy of sounder industrial conditions in the future.

The best ally of the physician is the trained nurse. Nursing has become a highly trained profession. Many a patient is pulled through a serious crisis more by the help of his nurse than of his doctor. *The American Journal of Nursing*, J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, price \$2.00 a year, is an evidence of the great progress made in this profession. It is a handsome, well illustrated monthly of 96 pages, devoted to original contributions and selections on this important subject. It describes specialties in nursing settlements, hospital economics, with an interesting article on work for nurses in play-schools, where children are taught the elements of the care of children, sick and well.