

regarded as still an open question. With regard to the second document, or the Logia of Matthew, Dr. Sanday thinks it was chiefly restricted to the sayings of Christ, and that these sayings or discussions were employed in the first and third questions. He considers that the Apostle Matthew did not write the first Gospel as we have it, but that it was called by his name, because it contained the Logia collected by him, a section so important that the name passed from that to the whole."

Out of several questions of interest which solicit attention we can spare room for only one, the question of the genuineness of the conclusion of St. Mark's Gospel (Chap. XVI., vs. 9-20). It is a great argument in their favour that they have been held to be genuine by such critics as Scrivener and Salmon; although, on the other hand, Dean Burgon's advocacy of them puts us on our guard, and the fact that they are relegated either to a later appearance or to an inferior position by Lightfoot, Westcott, Tischendorf, Tragelès, Alford, and many others, bids us hesitate to believe that they were written at the same time as the rest of the Gospel. Two things are certain: these verses are wanting in the oldest manuscripts—or, at least, in the oldest manuscript—and they contain words not a few which are not found in other parts of this Gospel. That they are of canonical authority, we do not doubt. That they may have been written by St. Mark, we do not deny. But that they were produced along with the rest of the Gospel we cannot help doubting.

Books for Boys.*

THIS book, by Albert Stearns, is one of the most entertaining that has of late come into our hands. Mr. Stearns is to be congratulated on his happy thought of writing a nineteenth century fairy tale, and of writing it in a manner agreeable to readers of all ages. Chris Wagstaff is a New England boy who, by a mere chance, obtains possession of the original Aladdin's lamp and happens to discover its magic properties. The genie, when summoned, is found to be as obedient as ever, but he is quite in touch with modern inventions and discoveries, as is proved by the wonderful palace that he erects at a moment's notice, fitted throughout with electric lights, elevators and so forth. The schoolboy owner of the lamp, however, sets him work to do that is very different from the tasks imposed by Aladdin, much to his disgust and mortification. It is the manner in which these tasks are performed that furnishes the rich humour of the book, for the unlucky Chris is led into many a trouble and perplexity by the capricious genie. The story cannot be said to have any plot. The whole is an idea so skilfully worked out that the interest is well and equally sustained from beginning to end. The only fault to be found with it is that the adventures of Chris and the genie do not last longer, and the book is laid down with a feeling of regret that one must so soon bid farewell to Chris and his lamp. The way in which the genie releases himself from his duties as the slave of the lamp shows, to say the least, originality on the part of the author. Chris has invited a number of friends to see him fly down from the top of a church steeple. After going up the spiral staircase, leading to the top, he summons the genie in the usual manner, that is by rubbing the lamp, but there is no response, and poor Chris, disgraced in the eyes of his schoolmates, has to confess that he cannot make good his promises. Subsequently the rebellious genie puts in an appearance, in order to explain to Chris that—but, with Rudyard Kipling, all we can say is that that is another story, and refer the reader to the book itself. One of the most amusing chapters in this delightful book is that in which the genie presents himself to the good people of Lincolnville, as Professor Nemo, the world's

greatest conjuror, and performs wonderful tricks of magic, such as drawing a huge St. Bernard dog from under a man's coat, and producing a white horse, a deer, an elephant, and other animals, out of an ordinary silk hat—an exhibition at which even a Hermann would marvel. The work done by Reginald Birch and E. B. Bensell in illustrating the volume is excellent.

Elbridge S. Brooks, the author of "A Boy of the First Empire," presents a distinctly one-sided view of the great Emperor, Napoleon Bonaparte. Here we see him only in the character of a good husband, an unselfish patriot, a faithful companion and friend. One side of the mirror is held up, but only one, and his many faults and misdeeds are carefully passed over in silence. But Napoleon, though prominent throughout the volume, is not the actual hero of the book. The hero is a young French lad, who overhears a plot against Napoleon's life, hastens to St. Cloud and gives information which leads to the speedy arrest of the conspirators. He finds himself at once in high favour with Napoleon, who makes a special portège of him. The boy becomes thoroughly attached to the Emperor, and if there ever was a sincere worshipper at the Napoleonic shrine, Philip Desnouettes is that worshipper. With him it is always the Emperor, the Little Corporal, Napoleon Bonaparte. The story is well told and is well balanced, so much so that many historical incidents are introduced without causing any apparent incongruity. The character sketching is all well done, and, in spite of the biassed presentation of Napoleon's character, the whole effect of the book cannot but be inspiring to youthful minds.

Kirk Munroe, for so long favourably known to boy readers, gives us in his latest book a picture of colonial life as it was more than a century ago. The title of the book, "At War with Pontiac," explains what the frame is in which this picture is set. The story is told in a plain but interesting manner, the various incidents are all well described, and the book is entertaining reading. The hero, Donald Hester is the manly son of a manly father, Major Hester, the honoured guest of the warrior Pontiac. This great chief is depicted, not as a blood-thirsty conspirator, but rather as a noble patriot struggling for the rights of his red-skinned brethren. The humour of the story is furnished by Paymaster Bullen who, with his wonderful tub, goes through many startling adventures, and who, in spite of bumptiousness and conceit, proves himself, in the end, to be a sterling good fellow. The volume contains many strong passages, notably the defence of the block house at Fort Presque Isle, and the description of the unfortunate sortie made from Fort Detroit, the object of which was to surprise and destroy Pontiac's village. This book is sure to find a welcome from many Canadian and American boys, for it appeals strongly to boys on either side of the border.

Laura E. Richards's new volume in the famous "Captain January" series may in truth be styled a literary gem. It is a book which deserves a wide circle of readers, and is certain to have that circle. It is and it is not a child's story, for, while the hero is but a little boy, the story itself awakens the sympathies of old as well as young. "Nautilus" is the title of a simple but most entertaining tale, and is probably the best work that has as yet come from the pen of Mrs. Richards. The scene is laid in one of the New England States, the leading characters being a little boy, a Spanish Captain, and the little boy's uncle, Deacon Endymion Scrapper, who is as thorough-going a rascal as one could find anywhere. The author displays excellent taste in the choice of words, and draws many beautiful pen pictures in the course of the narrative. The boyish hopes and dreams of "Juan Colorado" cannot fail to touch an answering chord in many a boy's heart.

The last two books we have on our list are by James Otis, and both are volumes from the series of *Stories of American History*. The first is entitled "The Boys of 1745," and is a story relating to the capture of Louisburg in that year from the French. Louisburg was besieged and captured by Colonists of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Hampshire. The second, "Neal, the Miller," deals with the troubles which the Stamp Act caused in the New England Colonies. Both stories are told in a light, interesting vein, and prove not only interesting but profitable reading, narrating, as they do, leading incidents in Colonial and Revolutionary history. These two books, as well as Mrs. Richards'

*"Chris and the Wonderful Lamp." By Albert Stearns. New York: The Century Co. Toronto: The Copp, Clark Co.

"A Boy of the First Empire." By Elbridge S. Brooks. New York: The Century Co. Toronto: The Copp, Clark Co.

"At War with Pontiac." By Kirk Munroe. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons. Toronto: Wm. Briggs.

"Nautilus." By Laura T. Richards. Boston: Estes & Lauriat.

"The Boys of 1745." By James Otis. Boston: Estes & Lauriat.

"Neal, The Miller." By James Otis. Boston: Estes & Lauriat.