

moniac in the garret, the dour Presbyterian elder driven to madness, with sword and gun defying approach, whom the unarmed minister hearded in his den and conquered with the power of his mother's prayer. A silken thread of romance runs through the story of Quintin MacClellan. The hearts of the Highlanders, smitten with love's spell of power, like the rock in Horeb, when smitten by the rod of Moses, melt into tenderness.

*The Growth and Administration of the British Colonies, 1837-1897.* By REV. WILLIAM PARR CRESWELL, M.A. London: Blackie & Son. Toronto: The Copp, Clark Company.

This is a book for the times. The relation of the Mother of Nations and her forty colonies was the most conspicuous note of the Jubilee of 1897. That relation has long been misunderstood, but now its true character is asserting itself. We hear no more the words, "Loose the bond and let them go." "Too loyal is too costly." Canadian sentiment responds warmly to the sympathy of the Motherland beyond the seas:

"For we have British hearts, and British blood  
Shall leap up, eager, when the danger calls!  
Once and again our sons have sprung to arms  
To fight in Britain's quarrel—not our own—  
Canadian blood has dyed Canadian soil,  
For Britain's honour that we deemed our own."

The author, with a remarkable insight into colonial sentiment, writes wisely concerning the administration of the Canadian, Australian and African colonies during the Queen's long reign.

*With Fire and Sword.* An historical novel of Poland and Russia. By HENRYK SIENKIEWICZ. Authorized and unabridged translation from the Polish. By JEREMIAH CURTIN. Toronto: Geo. N. Morang. Pp. xxii.-779.

The story of the struggle for liberty in Poland is like the prophet's scroll in Scripture, written within and without with lamentation and weeping and woe. A striking episode in this prolonged conflict is described in these vivid pages. The historic insight and realistic portraiture of the past which characterize "*Quo Vadis*" are seen also in this volume. It is a curious illustration of the cosmopolitan character of the republic of letters that

this book is written in Polish, is translated by Mr. Curtin, the United States Consul to Guatemala, and published in Toronto. Mr. Curtin gives an historical introduction, with a folding map and several illustrations, which enable one to better comprehend this dramatic narrative.

It is pitiful to think that after so much unavailing valour Poland has ceased to be even a geographical expression. The closing lines of the story seem like a great black seal on this tragic tale. "Wolves howled on the ruins of former towns, and a land once flourishing became a mighty graveyard. Hatred grew into the hearts and poisoned the blood of brothers."

*The Mistakes of Ingersoll.* By REV. THOMAS McGRADY. Cincinnati: Curtis & Jennings. Toronto: William Briggs. Price, \$1.00. Pp. 344.

We have all heard of Mr. Ingersoll's criticisms of the mistakes of Moses. A humourist declares he would like to have heard Moses on the mistakes of Ingersoll. Mr. McGrady's trenchant review exhibits the egregious folly of many of Ingersoll's criticisms of the Pentateuch. On this side of the line we do not take Ingersoll seriously. He is regarded as a clever and unscrupulous man who simply talks scepticism at a hundred dollars a night because it pays, and at the same time, denounces as mercenaries the faithful men who devote their lives to preaching the Gospel and doing good on a very meagre living allowance. There is a stirring eloquence about these chapters which makes them very readable. Ingersoll's shallow criticisms are, we think, fairly met and refuted. The best answer, however, is the onward march of Christianity, the conversion of sinners, the holy lives and happy deaths of believers. Chaplain McCabe well met the sneers of Ingersoll some years ago by his famous song, "We are building two a day." It must now be about six churches a day which a single branch of Methodism alone is erecting every day for the worship of God.

*Heroic Personalities.* By LOUIS ALBERT BANKS, D.D. New York: Eaton & Mains. Toronto: William Briggs. Price, \$1.00.

Dr. Banks is a busy Methodist preacher doing full work in important charges. He is also one of the most prolific and popular authors of the times. Though still a young man, a round dozen of volumes have proceeded from his pen. In this