

THE BOOK PAGE

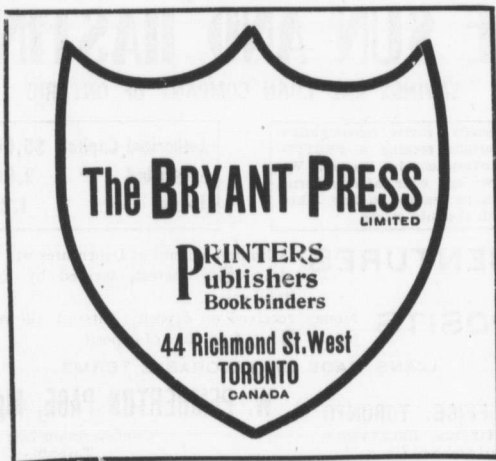
A few weeks ago, Dr. Alexander Maclaren, of Manchester, celebrated his eightieth birthday. An expository preacher for sixty years, he is now giving to the world the ripe fruitage of his study and experience, in **Expositions of the Holy Scriptures** (Hodder & Stoughton, London, The Upper Canada Tract Society, Toronto, each volume about 400 pages, \$1.50 per volume, or \$6.00 net for set of six). The first set, now complete, covers Genesis, Isaiah, Jeremiah and Matthew (3 volumes). It has been said that, "Dr. Maclaren is one of those exceptional men who can afford to print all they utter," and those who read him will find themselves greatly the richer. The preacher can hardly afford to be without him.

The hero of **The Red Reaper**, by John A. Steuart (The Copp Clark Company, Toronto, 452 pages, \$1.50) is the Marquis of Montrose, the famous leader of the royalist forces in Scotland, in the days when Charles I. and the Parliament were struggling for supremacy. Beginning with the victory of Tippermuir and the seizure of Perth, we have a vivid picture of the rapid movements of Montrose and his Highland followers, and his successive triumphs over the Duke of Argyle at the head of the covenanting army. The fruit of these victories, as Sir Walter Scott says, was lost in the crushing defeat of Philiphaugh. The flight of Montrose to the continent, his futile invasion of Scotland with a small force on hearing of Charles I.'s execution, and finally his execution in Glasgow for having betrayed the Covenant of which he had been an adherent, bring us to the end of the tale, full of

interest throughout, ringing with the clash of steel, and thick with plot and intrigue. Mr. Steuart is a champion of the royalist cause, and does less than justice to those who were fighting for the civil and religious liberty to which we have fallen heir. But at this remove of time, those who honor most the memory of the heroic Covenanters, can afford their meed of admiration to the gallant deeds and devoted loyalty, celebrated in this book, of many who sided with the king.

Without literary pretension, but an entertaining account of the common, everyday work of a circuit rider, or rather, in this case, of a circuit "cruiser," in his very uncommon surroundings "on the bays and barrens of Newfoundland," is Rev. James Lumsden's, **The Skipper Parson** (William Briggs, Toronto, 212 pages, 17 full page illustrations, \$1.00 net). There is a good deal in the book that is quite local to the missionary's daily round of church duty, but there are also many interesting descriptions of peril, and hairbreadth escapes, and of the kindly fishermen of the "ancient colony," and their quaint speech and ways, as well as of the physical features and the resources of the country. The illustrations are particularly good.

In, **Saints in Society**, by Margaret Baillie-Saunders, (The Copp Clark Co., Toronto, 348 pages, \$1.25), the sub-title, "A Great Social Success," carries its spice of cynicism. Mark Hading's social life was moral failure. A cockney printer, in whom the "Mission woman," Dorcas Deane, has awakened a passion for the poor, Mark starts out bravely enough



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