

## Book Notices.

*The Story of the Upper Canadian Rebellion.* By JOHN CHARLES DENT., author of "The Last Forty Years," etc. Vol. II., 4to, pp. 382. Toronto: C. Blackett Robinson.

In this volume Mr. Dent completes the most full and accurate account that has ever been written of this important episode in our national history. Fascinating as was the interest of his first volume, that of the present volume is still more so. The story possesses greater unity of action and is more dramatic in character. The interest is focused upon the ill-starred attack upon Toronto, although there are stirring chapters on the Navy Island *fiasco*, the Windsor and Prescott invasions and other frontier filibustering adventures. We find that Mackenzie, who in the first volume appears in the light of a patriotic enthusiast for liberty, with no more serious fault than his impetuous rashness, becomes the soured and disappointed revolutionary plotter and political "crank." Some exceedingly unlovely traits of character are developed. It would have been better for his fame had Alderman Powell's pistol not played false when fired point blank at the rebel leader. His subsequent history is one of disaster and humiliation. Mr. Dent gives copious citations of authorities for every statement he makes. Indeed, no pains have been spared in getting at the bottom facts. Every accessible document has been consulted, every accessible survivor of the struggle interviewed. This is the way in which recent history should be written. Mr. Dent's frankness and honesty are conspicuous on every page. Whether we may agree with all his conclusions or not, his work must forever remain a chief repository of the historic facts connected with this revolt.

The memory of Dr. Rolph is

cleared of some sinister imputations which have long obscured his fame. Still he was not a heroic character. He exceeded in canny caution as much as did Mackenzie in rashness. Indeed, the most heroic figures in the whole story are the unfortunate Lount and Matthews, who paid the penalty of their fault with Christian dignity and firmness on the scaffold.

Mr. Dent's book is admirably written. The style is graceful and graphic. The citation of authorities copious and clear. The publisher has done his part well. It is elegantly printed and bound, and is embellished with a good steel portrait of Mackenzie and engravings of the loss of the *Caroline* and other cuts.

*Elements Necessary to the Formation of Business Character.* By JOHN MACDONALD. Toronto: William Briggs. Price 35 cents.

The counsels of a successful merchant as to the elements of mercantile success cannot fail to be of great value to all who would attain such success. Mr. Macdonald estimates the number of business failures at 97½ per cent., and the number of successful men at only 2½ per cent. But he thinks that the proportion might readily be reversed and the failures reduced to 2½ per cent., while the successes should reach 97½ per cent. To show the means by which this may be accomplished is the purpose of this book. It is freighted with wise counsels, expressed in terse and vigorous language. It is sumptuously printed on heavy paper, with wide margins, and elegantly bound. With characteristic liberality Mr. Macdonald donates all the profits of this book—which is sure to command a very extensive sale—to the Superannuated Ministers' Fund and the Woman's Missionary Society.