

the palace of the ancient Conti family, which had come into his hands by foreclosure of a mortgage, for subterranean treasures. He discovers a colossal gilt bronze statue, and is exposed to imminent peril by the flooding of the excavation by one of the very ancient subterranean streams of Rome, "The Lost Water," which has greatly puzzled archæologists. The statue now stands in the rotunda of the Vatican, and was discovered when the writer of the tale was a boy at Rome. A very ingenious and complicated plot of Roman life and society is woven around this curious incident, the narration of which keeps the reader on the qui vive till its happy denouement.

"The Life of Edwin Wallace Parker, D.D. By J. H. Messmore. New York: Eaton & Mains. Toronto: William Briggs. Price, \$1.00 net.

It is with pride and pleasure that we note that at a representative meeting of missionaries of the Methodist Episcopal Church in India, one of our own countrymen, the Rev. J. H. Messmore, a former member of the old Canadian Conference, was chosen by them as the biographer of Bishop Parker. Mr. Messmore has nobly accomplished his task. The book gathers strength as the writer proceeds with the story of that wonderful man who, for forty-one years, rejoiced in active missionary service in India. Mr. Messmore follows Dr. Parker from his boyhood's home among the Vermont hills to his last resting-place on a ledge of the Himalayas. Dr. Parker's cheerful battle with ill-health, and various other discouragements, and his manifold labours, both mental and manual, make the study of his life an inspiration. The book is not only a faithful record of the lives of Bishop and Mrs. Parker, but also gives a wealth of information concerning Methodist missions in India.

"Poems of the New Century." First Series. Minor lyric and narrative poems. By Robert S. Jenkins. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. 173. Price, \$1.00.

This is another volume of high-class Canadian verse, for the issue of which our publishing house has won such a reputation. It is prefaced by a thoughtful essay on the lyric poetry of Keats, exhibiting much fine discrim-

ination. The author is very happy in his classical verse, as is befitting a Trinity man. There are a number of stirring patriotic poems, others descriptive of varied aspects of Canadian life, which exhibit keen sympathy with nature. There is an air of distinction about the make-up of this book that commends it to people of taste.

"Report of the Bureau of Mines, 1903." Printed by Order of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario. Toronto: Printed and published by L. K. Cameron, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The mineral wealth of Ontario is becoming more and more fully recognized as one of the most valuable assets of the Premier Province. Its remarkable development in recent years is a striking illustration that this is Canada's "growing time." The Bureau of Mines is rendering important service to the country by its Summer Mining Schools and its annual reports. One of the most interesting chapters, in view of the recent coal shortage, is that on peat fuel, its manufacture and use. The Sudbury nickel deposits are fully treated, as are its other manifold mining interests.

"The Sunday-Night Service." A Study in Continuous Evangelism. By Wilbur Fletcher Sheridan. Cincinnati: Jennings & Pye. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. 244. Price, \$1.00.

Sunday night is the preacher's grand opportunity. Then, in this country at least, the congregations are larger, there is time for an after-meeting, the preacher can get in close grips with the people. The old Gospel needs no substitute for reaching the masses. It is still true, as never before, "And I if I be lifted up will draw all men unto me." This book indicates wise methods for Sunday-night work.

"Missions and World Movements." By Bishop Charles H. Fowler. Cincinnati: Jennings & Pye. Toronto: William Briggs. Pp. 103. Price, 25 cents net.

This stirring address rings like the peal of a clarion. It is a comprehensive survey of the great world problems which concern the Christian Church and summon it to the grandest enterprise which it ever faced. It is marked by all Bishop Fowler's fervid and lofty eloquence.