

## NEW BOOKS REVIEWED.

The next best thing to the reading of a good book is, perhaps, the perusal of an intelligent review of it to me it is always a source of lively satisfaction.—Gladstone.

**SELECTIONS FROM THE SOURCES OF ENGLISH HISTORY:** Being a supplement to textbooks of English history. By Charles W. Colby, M.A., Ph.D., professor of history in McGill University. Cloth, 6s., 325 pp. Longmans, Green & Co., London; The Copp, Clark & Co., Limited, Toronto. Dr. Colby has written a valuable work. He has selected a long list of episodes, or events, in English history and has quoted from the "sources" from which we draw our information about these events a number of informing extracts. He prefaces them with an intelligent and expressive "note" in each case. The advantage of the book is two-fold: The selections are made by a careful and earnest student of history, and his own prefatory paragraphs are, in themselves, of critical value. It would be hard to find together in one volume so many extracts from important books and documents which the ordinary student never sees and never will see. Teachers will much appreciate the volume. As for students, the author points out in his preface that "care has been taken to keep both passages and comment within the compass of boys sixteen years old."

**MARGUERITE DE ROBERVAL** A romance of the days of Jacques Cartier. By J. G. Marquis. Cloth, 250 pp., \$1.25. The Copp, Clark Co., Limited, Toronto. This is, we think, Mr. Marquis' first ambitious work in fiction. It is written with evident care. Taking a period in Canadian history, in the days of Jacques Cartier, the author gives a glimpse of the privations and dangers which surrounded the colonization of New France. The fatalities which attended de Roberval and his expeditions are matters of history, and furnish a justification for the gloomy, tragic tale which Mr. Marquis has written. It is well told throughout and indicates a high level of talent on the part of the author. That it is a cheerful story one cannot, of course, say.

**PRIVATE JAMES FIFE** A STORY OF THE BOYS' BRIGADE.—By Herbert Reid. Cloth, 1s. 6d. Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier, London. This story should be received with favor by the Canadian youth. Private James is not extraordinary in any sense of the term. He is rather a type of the ordinary Scotch city boy of humble parentage. He possesses, however, a desire to do right, and the way in which the many trials and troubles in home and brigade are faced and overcome,

makes it a good book to place in the hands of a boy. The many types of boyhood introduced, and the several scenes of home and brigade life depicted, give to the book a spirit of life and an attractiveness that will appeal to all boys. Though the scene is laid in a Scotch city and many local types are introduced, the dialect is at no stage difficult to the Canadian youth.

**LEE'S GUIDE TO GAY "PAREE" AND EVERYDAY FRENCH CONVERSATION.**—Leather, full gilt, \$1; silk cloth, 50c. Laird & Lee, Chicago. The numerous Canadians who intend seeing the Paris Exposition of 1900 will appreciate this bright little guide-book. This work, though small enough for the pocket, contains 180 pages of crisp, well-condensed information of the kind that will be useful to the American traveler. It contains a list of all the sights of Paris and the suburbs, with pronunciation marked, 23 maps of the municipal districts of the city, naming the places of interest situated in each, an official plan (in colors) of the exposition grounds, 12 half-tones of famous landmarks and a colored map giving the railroad distance and time to Paris from all directions, supplemented by a table of railroad fares from 48 important European cities. There is a telegraph code, a French slang dictionary, hints on passports and notes on the exposition. Blank pages for addresses, cash account, etc., make the guide a true pocket volume. Persons considering a trip to Paris next year should be made acquainted with this guide.

**THE MIRACLE AT MARKHAM, OR HOW TWELVE CHURCHES BECAME ONE.**—Charles E. Sheldon. Cloth. William Briggs, Toronto. The writer of this book needs no introduction to the Canadian public. The remarkable sale of his former works, especially "In His Steps," has given him a name that will guarantee a demand for this as well as any future works from his pen. As the title indicates, this story deals with the question of sectarianism in the Christian church. Markham, a town of 2,800 people, possesses no less than twelve Protestant churches, none of them large in membership, and all having a hard struggle against debts and current expenses. The story, in a most interesting way, shows how the churches were united in an effort to uplift the moral tone of the town, with the result that the saloons were driven from the town, and, in many ways by united action,

the life of the community was improved. In this, as in all Sheldon's works, there is a romance to sustain interest, which is well held throughout.

**THE IPANE.**—By C. B. Cunninghame Graham. Paper, 1s. 6d. T. Fisher Unwin, London. This work is the first of "The Over Seas Library" series. This library has been conceived and commenced by the publisher with a purpose of making the the average Briton better acquainted with the thoughts, peculiarities and habits of the vast Empire "over the seas." It proposes to deal with not only life in the colonies of the Empire, but the life of Englishmen—travelers, traders, etc., in foreign lands. "The Ipane" has, with good reason, been chosen the first of such a series, giving, as it does, a most interesting and vivid description of life as seen by the editor in his peregrinations round the globe. Mr. Graham looks at life in a humorous and sarcastic way that makes his descriptions of or philosophic comments on life in Argentina, Scotland and Africa very entertaining.

**AMONG THE WILD UGONI.**—W. A. Elmslie, M.B., C.M., F.R.G.S. Cloth, 3s. 6d. Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier, Edinburgh and London. Ever since the story of David Livingstone's life and death was given to the world, the story of missionary discovery and work in Africa has had a peculiar fascination for Christian workers. This story, which is a history of the Livingstonia Mission, on the west shore of Lake Nyassa, in British Central Africa, tells, in a most interesting way, of the early trials and dangers of the pioneers, and their ultimate success in Christianizing the Ugoni, one of the principal Zulu tribes. As this mission is situated on Lake Nyassa, its influence extending over a large portion of the trans-African railway proposed by Cecil Rhodes, it is of peculiar interest just now. The book is well illustrated, and contains a good map of Rhodesia, or British Central Africa, and the surrounding country.

**THE PRESIDENT OF BORAVIA.**—By George Lambert. Cloth, \$1; paper, 50c. The W. J. Gage Co., Limited, Toronto. This is a capital novel, full of incident and intense interest. An English engineer, John Standen, is sent out to Boravia, a South American State with revolutionary tendencies, where his qualities of courage and diplomacy are required to manage the railway being built by English money. On the voyage out, he falls in love with Lois da Pierra, daughter of the President of Boravia. His trusty henchman, John Burch, a Devonshire man, unearths a great treasure in Boravia, assists Standen to rescue the President's family menaced by a revolution, and the curtain falls upon marriage, a fortune and a baronetcy for Standen, with a restoration of the old monarchy in Boravia. Of recent stories of political adventure this is one of the best.

**HISTORY UP TO DATE**—By Wm. J. Johnston. Cloth, \$1.50; 258 pp. A. S. Barnes & Co., New York. This is a concise history of the late Spanish-American War brought down to the signing of the peace treaty. It is embellished by 16 illustrations. It probably contains for Canadian readers all they want to preserve as a record of the war.