

## QUEEN'S QUARTERLY

recalls the procedure during the following years with incredible restraint in a man born in Lynchburg, without bitterness even when he relates that when President Davis was put on trial at Richmond there were five negroes on the jury. Why victors do such things; why the French at the Rhine quartered black troops upon a descendant of Queen Victoria, that is a problem in national psychology.

Much remains to be said about the form and technique of the book. It is in four volumes of 2421 pages, 9 by 6 inches, 36 lines, 11 words to the line, near a million words, and not a word too many. The weight is over 9 pounds. It is issued by Scribner's in their best style; it costs 30 dollars, and is worth the price. Dr. Freeman has done a work that needed to be done; it is well done; and the life of Lee will never have to be written again. He brought to the task many academic distinctions, a long editorial experience, and the patient industry that historical research demands. There are ten pages of acknowledgments, amongst them to John Buchan, Winston Churchill, Lloyd George, Marshal Foch. The bibliography occupies 26 pages, the index 47. The index is too detailed for easy reference.

For nineteen years Dr. Freeman has been engaged in a vast field; he has missed nothing. With the eye of an artist he adorns every page. Towards the end he lightens the winter of growing despair by touches of pathos and humour. Lee forbade presents of food being sent to his table. With his own hand he carried his last portion of turkey to a sick officer "who had nothing to eat but corn bread and sweet-potato coffee." The book is one for every reader, but for full effect it demands a preliminary knowledge of the general history of the war. This present trivial review is merely the impression of one person who has read these million words with a profound and solemn emotion, and with gratitude to the author who has permitted him to come so close to the heart of a great and good man.