Book Reviews.

Ocean to Ocean.—By the Rev. Goo. M. Grant, of Hainer, N.S. Enlarged and revised edition—illustrated. Toronto: Bellord Bros. 1877.

The able and accomplished author of this book accompanied Bandford Fleming's surveying expedition on the line of the Canada Pacific Railway in 1872; but his journey was longer than that of the surveying expedition; it begar at Halifar and ended at Victoria in Vancouver's Island; so he may well call it from "Ocean to Ocean." The book was written by the way; and it is on that account a correct and life-like photograph of what the writer saw and heard and felt and thought from day to day. First copies, struck off while the impression is fresh and clear and sharp on the traveller's mind, are much more apt to be correct than those which are taken afterwards when the picture becomes dimmed by time, colored and shaded by after-thought, or defaced by the tread of subsequent events. Here is the opening paragraph :-

"Travel a thousand miles of the St. Lawrence; another thousand on great lakes and wilderness of lakes and aircams; a thousand miles across prairies and up the valley of the Saskatonewan; and nearly a thousand through woods and ever great ranges of mountaine, and you have travelled from Ocean to Ocean through Canada. All this country is a single colony of the British Empire; and this colony is dream-ing magnificent dreams of a future when it shall be the Greater Britain, and the high-way across which the labrics and products of Asia shall be carried, to the Eastern as well as to the Yestern sides of the Atlantic. Well as to the Western sides of an Adiabate.

Monntains were once thought to be effectual
barriers against railways, but that day has
gone by; and, now that trains run between
San Francisco and New York over summits of eight thousand two hundred feet, why may they not run between Victoria and Halitax, over a height of three thousand seven hundred feet? At any rate, a Canadian Pacific Railway has been undertaken by the Dominion; and as this book consists of notes make in connection with the survey, an introductory chapter may be given to a brief history of the project." After supplying the "brief history " men-

tioned above, the author proceeds in his second chapter to give an account of the journey from Halitax to Thunder Bay. The record of this stage is brief, for the country is well known, and the writer evidently does not wish to weary his readers with empty twaddle regarding his own individual impressions of places and things of which they must have pretty distinct ideas of their own. He praises the Province of Ontario for its fertility and beauty, but seems to deplore its want of mountains. One incident is detailed at length, and although it will occupy a good deal of our limited space we are tempted to place it before our readers :-

"We reached Collingwood at mid-day, and were informed that the steamer Frances Smith would start for Fort William at two p.m. Great was the bustle, accordingly, in getting the baggage on board. In the hurry, the gangway was shoved out of its place, and when one of the porters rushed out on it with a box, down it tilted, pitching him head first into the water between the pier and the steamer. We heard the splash, and ran, with half a dezen the splash, and ran, with nair a dezen others, just in time to see his boots kicking frantically as they disappeared. 'Oh, it's that tool, S——,' laughed a bystander, 'this is a second time he's tumbled in.' 'He can't swim,' yelled two or three, clutching at ropes that were tied, trunks and other impossible life preservors. In and other impossible life-preservers. In the meantime S—— rose, but in rising, struck his head against a heavy float that almost filled the narrow space, and at once sank again, like a stone. He would have been arowned within six feet of the wharf, but for a tall, strong fellow, who rushed through the crowd, jumied in, and caught him as he rose a second time. S-bke a fool as he was said to be, returned the kindness by half-throttling his would be deliverer; but other by standers, springing on the float, got the two out. The resour swung lightly on to the wharf, shook nimself as if he had been a Newfoundland dog, and wasked off; nobody seemed to notice him, or to muck that he deserved a word of places. On Lequiring, we learned that on his way to the Upper Likes, who, last summer asso had jumped rom the steader's ueck into Like Summer's ueck into Like Summer's to save a child that the author of board. Knowing that the author that the Likes Summer's Section 1 that Car and had no Humane Scelety's media to the w, one of the party ran to that to the country to offer a slight gratury, but he plucky fellow refused to take a thing, on the plus that he was a good momer, and that his clothes had not teen muc."

and chapter- Thunder Bas to Iı For only '-tuere are many brilliant pas sage . . crictive of the conery, the mode of trav i, is crossed by the way, etc.; but We have space only for a short paragraph expresse of the author's admiration of Prairie Land :-

"July 81st -Awakened at eight a.m. by heatit a voice exclaiming, thirty-two new species aready; it's a perfect floral maw species asteady; its a pericot noral garder. Of course it was our botanist with his arms that it thetre sures of the prairie. We lo ked out and beheld a sea of green sprick country ellow, red, lilac, and white, extends a fround to the horizon. None of us he version a piatric before, and, be-hold, the half had not been told us! As you cannot know what the ocean is withyou cannot allow what the ocean is with-seeing it, no now on you in imagination picture the grante. The vast, fertile, beau-tiful expanse suggests mexhaustible nation-al with Our uppermost thought might be expressed in the words, 'Thank God, the great North-west is a reality.'"

Mr. Grant gives a very thorough description of Manife ba and the great Lone Land

beyond; and the book ought to flud many readers among those whose eyes are beginning to turn in that direction. We moverry that we have not space for longer extracts; we can only give a very about one regarding Manitoba :-

"As specimens of what may be done here, the farm of one Morgan was pointed out. He had bought it some years ago for £50 and this year, he had already been offered 1450 for the petatees growing on it. A Wesleyan missionary told us that last year he had taken the average of ten good far mers near Portage la Prairie, and found that their returns of wheat were seventeen bushels to one—and that on land which had been juilding wheat for ten years back, and which would continue to yield it on the same terms for the next thirty or forty."

The descriptions of seenery among the Rocky Mountains and on the Pacific coast are well executed and very interesting. The printing and binding of the book are very creditable to the publishers.

Birtas, Marringes and Deaths. NOT EXCEEDING FOUR LINES 25 DENTS.

MARRIED.

On the 11th unst, by the Rev R Redgers of Collingwood, at the residence of the bride's father, the Rev John Rutberford Stuart Burnet, c' Aliston, to Miss Latharine Seath Michille, second daughter of Andrew Melville, Esq., of Nottawa.

DIED.

In London, Ont. on Sabbath, the 1st of April, Elizabeth, wife of John Glen, Esq., and beloved caughter of the Key. William Graham, Pine River, aged 27 years 5 months and 10 days.

At Streetsville, on the 2nd inst., James Spence, aged 71 years, deeply regretted by a large circle of friends. Deceased was an older in the Presbyterian Church, streetsville, and at the time of his death heid the position of Clerk of Session and representative in the Church Courts. His end was

Official Announcements.

MEETINGS OF PRESBYTERIES. LINDSAY.—At Woodville, on the last Tuesday of

May.

Oltawa.—Next Presbytery meeting in Knox Church, Ottawa, on Monday, 7th May, at 3 o'clock

p.m. QUEBEC.—At Three Rivers, on the first Wednesday of July, at ten o'clock a.m.
Paris.—Within Dumfries Street Church, Paris, on the first Tuesday of July, at eleven a.m. Congregational payments to the Presbytery fund are payable at this meeting.

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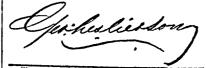
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