

how deftly He rebuked His host's lack of courtesy!

"A Christian is called to be a Gentleman of Jesus. A Christian is a man of the highest birth—born from above—and of the best blood, the blood of Jesus Christ running in the veins of his being. *Noblesse Oblige*; and Christians have their own *noblesse*, which must ever move them to 'behave as becometh the Gospel.' Much that is required of us is imposed by no definite law. But *Noblesse Oblige*; the motive that incites us is the law of becomingness—that we do not 'behave ourselves unseemly,' that we 'walk worthy of God, who hath called us to His kingdom and glory.'

The Sky Pilot. A tale of the Foothills. By RALPH CONNOR, author of "Black Rock," etc. Toronto: The Westminster Company, Limited, and William Briggs. Price, \$1.00.

The story of "Black Rock," a tale of Canadian life in the Selkirks, at once caught the ear of the English-speaking world. It is very high praise to say that "The Sky Pilot" is a worthy successor to that story. It gives a graphic picture of Western life in the ranching country of the Foothills: of the rough and often profane and reckless cowboys, who have, nevertheless, a vein of chivalry and nobleness in their character; and the efforts of the Sky Pilot to bring the Gospel and its ordinances to bear upon their lives. It is a scene worthy of a painter when the young missionary stood up at the bar in the drinking saloon and announced the hymn, "Jesus, Lover of my soul" to his cowboy congregation. The Sky Pilot won their hearts, fought valiantly against the gambling and drink demons, by the aid of the cowboys built a church, and the day it was opened, lay dying in his shack. The pathos of his funeral is akin to that of Ian MacLaren's "Weelum Maclure." The character of Gwen, the passionate child of the prairies, smitten into life-long suffering while trying to rescue an Indian boy from a cattle stampede, but led by the Pilot to peace through believing, is a very tender and beautiful episode. The humour of the story finds its culmination when "Broncho Bill" and his "pard" bluff the Scotch settlers into building the church. Bill becomes a trophy of the Pilot's love and tact, and himself utters, with breaking heart, the dedication prayer at its opening. This is a strong, virile story, one of the best-written by a Canadian on a Canadian theme.

Stephen the Black. By CAROLINE H. PEMBERTON, author of "Your Little Brother James." Philad.: Geo. W. Jacobs & Co., 103 95 South Fifteenth Street. Toronto: Wm. Briggs. Price, \$1.00.

The accomplished author of the story "Your Little Brother James," has written another "novel with a purpose." Its object is to show the disabilities and wrongs under which the coloured population of the United States continue to labour, even a third of a century after emancipation. The nation has confessedly a very difficult problem to solve, but it can only be solved on the principles of righteousness and justice. The tale is one of intense, and sometimes harrowing, interest. Stephen the Black is a man in whose veins there is an infusion of white blood, but he stands loyally by the coloured race, and seeks by a process of education to lift them to a higher level. The difficulties he encounters, the obstructions, the short time in the year permitted for school instruction, the hatred and antagonism of the poor whites, the bitter persecution of the blacks, culminating in two attempts to assassinate Stephen by lynch law, are a very black record, which the reports of lynching atrocities indicate has many parallels in the South.

True Motherhood. By JAMES C. FERNALD. 12mo, white leatherette. Price, 60 cts. New York and London: Funk & Wagnalls Company.

There is danger of decadence of character-making home-life. The tendency of young men and women is away from the roof-tree of the past. The young man wanders off in search of fabulous wealth. The young woman prefers a public career, however insignificant, to home-life. In the essays comprising "True Motherhood" Mr. Fernald treats all sides of the momentous question of present-day womanhood, and in such a delicate, considerate, and philosophical way that even those who might be inclined to oppose his views must read his argument with deep interest. The gist of Mr. Fernald's argument is that by the ministry of the home woman is not shut out of the world's great work, but is doing it at the greatest advantage. There is not a note of despair in these chapters. The author is optimistic, with not a tinge of pessimism, and he lifts the curtain of futurity upon a scene of highly advanced civilization.