

the-Hole" may be founded on fact. The last verse will indicate the rest of the narrative; (the last man is in and there are four runs to tie)—

"The umpire of their side
When the score was thirty-two
Called a no-ball and a wide;
Then the Mudford umpire knew
He must speak if he wished his side to save,
So the last man with despatch
He gave out for a catch
Off his knee, and won the match,
By a shave."

* * *

THE HEBREW PROPHETS.

George Adam Smith's long expected second volume on the "Twelve Prophets" has come at last. This volume is the forty-ninth of the now well-known *Expositor's Bible* and completes the series. The publishers (London: Hodder; Toronto: Fleming H. Revell Co.) are certainly to be congratulated on the great success of the series as a whole, and especially in having got George Adam Smith to write four of the volumes. This author is one of those fortunate writers with a genius for making hard things easy, and dry subjects interesting. He thoroughly understands the advantages of a rich and picturesque style, of which he is a past master. We have seen people read his studies on the Hebrew Prophets with the eagerness which is generally reserved for novels. Commercial travellers, it is said, now that they have got George Adam Smith, read the Prophets. What more can we say. This book is scholarly, and Theologians will study it. It is critical, but the criticism is all packed away by itself in Introductions and Notes. It is practical and appeals to the man of common sense. It is helpful because it takes the seals off the Old Testament. But above all, it is interesting, because everything that George Adam Smith writes is not only worth reading, but is touched with the enchanter's wand. Those who wish to understand the old Hebrew Prophets cannot do better than get these volumes.

* * *

CHARLES DICKENS.

The fourth volume of the Victorian era series is a study of *Charles Dickens* by George Gissing, (London: Blackie; Toronto: Copp, Clark Co.). This volume quite maintains the standard set by the first three. It is probably the most exhaustive critical appreciation of Dickens' literary work that has yet appeared. Prof. Ward's volume of the 'English Men of Letters' series, dealing with the same author, devotes a good deal of space to biography; the absence of this element in Mr. Gissing's volume allows room for a more detailed, and therefore more interesting treatment of purely literary characteristics. After sketching in with a few telling strokes the background of the great novelists' times, and devoting a few pages to tracing the growth of the man and the writer, he approaches his main task, that of criticism. First he discharges the unpleasant part of his duty, frankly admitting the defects in Dickens' work, that all impartial critics must admit, but at the same time, showing them in their true proportions. The remaining portion of the book consists of a keen appreciation of the good things that the great author contains in such abundance. It is most interesting to have one, who has such a reputation for realism as Mr. Gissing, give his views upon Charles Dickens, the thoroughgoing and professed idealist and optimist; and indications are not wanting that the close study of his great literary ancestor have, to some extent, modified the pessimistic tendencies of the critic.

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RECENT FICTION.

Stanley Weyman's new story, *Shrewsbury* will most certainly add to his reputation. It is more than a romance.

It is also more than the ordinary historical novel, for it has not a dull page, after the historical part begins. We warn the reader not to give this book up because of the homely character of its beginning. The tale is occupied with the intrigues of the Jacobites against William of Orange. It is full of interesting situations in which the characters of the king and Shrewsbury stand out against a background, in which Ferguson is a leading figure. The tour de force of making a coward—Richard Price—the leading figure in a stirring romance, illustrates the skill with which this fine piece of work is executed. The volume appears in Longman's Colonial Library and is published in Toronto by Copp, Clark Co.

The Pride of Jennico by Agnes and Egerton Castle (Toronto: Copp, Clark Co.), is a capitally told tale. An English gentleman inherits through a grand uncle the castle of Tollendhal in Moravia, together with vast estates. We will not tell the reader the story of Captain Basil Jennico's suit for the hand of a Princess, and the unexpected things that intervene to dash his pride, but we recommend a perusal of these strange and interesting adventures.

David Lyall's Love Story, by the author of "*The Land o' the Leal*" will be welcomed by the many admirers of the latter. It is a daintily written story of a Scotch laddie who comes to London to seek his fortune; and being given a helping hand by an editor who takes a fancy to him, soon finds himself in a position to do as much for others as well as something to further his own fortunes. The story throughout is fresh, interesting, and in every way attractive. It is published by Copp, Clark Co.

Convocation Notes.

EDITORS.

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In consideration of a grant of \$100.00 a year this space is set aside for the use of the Convocation of the University. Copies of the REVIEW are sent free to associate members who are not graduates and to Head masters of High Schools and Collegiate Institutes.

LECTURE LIST.

All correspondence about lectures is to be addressed to Henry Montgomery, Esq., M.A., Trinity College, Toronto.

The following is the list of lectures and lecturers for the session 1897-98:

The Reverend Dr. Welch, Provost of Trinity College—(1) George Eliot; (2) Cambridge Fifteen Years Ago; (3) John Bunyan; (4) Archbishop Laud; (5) Some English Translations of the Bible; (6) The Revised Version of the New Testament; (7) Religious Revivals of the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries.

The Reverend Professor Rigby, M.A., Dean of Trinity College—(1) Oliver Goldsmith; (2) Richard Brinsley Sheridan; (3) Early History of European Universities.

The Reverend E. C. Cayley, M.A., Professor of Theology in Trinity University—(1) Matthew Arnold; (2) Dean Church; (3) The Oxford Movement in Relation to the Church and the Age.

The Rev. E. W. Huntingford, M.A., Professor of Classics in Trinity University—(1) Decorative Art.

His Honour Judge McDonald of Brockville—(1) I's and Q's; (2) The United Empire Loyalists; (3) From the Atlantic to the Pacific.

The Reverend Herbert Symonds, M.A., Rector of Ashburnham—(1) The Religious Elements of the Poetry of Browning and Tennyson; (2) The Problem of Christian Unity.

Surgeon-Major William Napier Keefer, late of H. M. Bengal Army—(1) Some Eastern Types; (2) A Campaign in Egypt.