

gical and sympathetic Church of England clergyman will be more impressive than one written from an exclusively Methodist standpoint.

American Orators and Reformers: Horace Greeley, Editor. By FRANCIS NICHOL ZABRISKE. 12mo. Pp. 398. New York: Funk & Wagnalls. Toronto: R. J. Berkinshaw, 86 Bay Street.

The enterprising house of Funk & Wagnalls has projected a comprehensive series of books on leaders of opinion and reform in the United States. Very properly, a foremost place in this list is given to the distinguished editor and reformer, Horace Greeley. Greeley was one of the most noted of the makers of modern journalism. The *New York Tribune* is his monument. It was the first and the best of the papers of the country, a power for righteousness in the great social and moral struggles of the times, and is still one of the noblest, cleanest, strongest journals of the world. But he was more than a journalist, he was a great moral reformer. In his youth he threw himself with zeal into the temperance reform, the anti-slavery reform, the defence of the Sabbath, opposition to the tobacco habit and everything else that was bad, the uplifting of the masses and the championship of the right as he understood it without fear or faltering or favour.

The story of his life, which is here told with remarkable vigour and vivacity, has all the interest of a romance. Born of good Scotch-Irish stock, in Amherst, New Hampshire, he went to school at three years of age, decided to be a printer at six, became apprenticed at fifteen. At twenty he walked six hundred miles to visit his father, who had "gone west," and almost starved himself to pay his father's debts. At twenty-one he walked most of the way to New York, which he reached with a pack on his shoulders and only \$10 in his pocket. He found work in printing an agate type New Testament, which paid his board for a few weeks. He started a paper with a subscription list of twelve. The first

number sold only one hundred copies. He in time founded the *Tribune*, which did more to mould the political life and destiny of the country than any other agent. He worked often sixteen hours a day, sometimes twelve hours without leaving his chair. We have not space to speak of his free soil campaign, of his opposition to slavery, intemperance, capital punishment, etc.

During the war the *Tribune* was a mighty power. The office was sacked, and the editor barely escaped massacre by the pro-slavery mob. He was one of the most hated and reviled men in the country; yet, rank abolitionist as he was, he joined with Henry Ward Beecher in becoming bail for Jefferson Davis. This act caused an outburst of rage, the *Tribune* losing thousands of subscribers. After the war he became a candidate for the Presidency, but was defeated by General Grant, a man of incomparably inferior powers, although a dogged soldier and probably a "safer" figure-head for the Republic.

The close of Greeley's life had a dramatic pathos. Watching at the bedside of his dying wife for weeks, he writes, "I am a broken old man, I have not slept one hour in twenty-four for a month." Insomnia resulted in brain fever, and in a few days the brave soul passed away. His private life was pure and sweet and irreproachable. "He was," says his biographer, "a modern knight-errant in his championship of the weak and oppressed, and in all chivalry of a true soul, and yet a Don Quixote in his person and in his oft-times incapacity to distinguish windmills from giants." Intense moral earnestness was his characteristic. Like the apostle, he might have said, "I believe, therefore have I spoken." He was a man of hot temper. Like Cassius,

"He carried anger as a flint bears fire,
Which, much enforced, showeth a
hasty spark,
And straight is cold again."

He was not without his faults and failings; but, doubtless, at the final account, the just Judge shall say,