

follows that both teacher and taught should harmoniously work together for the production of the best periodical possible, each feeling that the journal is his journal and that he is partly responsible for its financial standing as well as its literary excellence.

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STORIES OF NEW FRANCE. In two series. By Agnes Maule Machar and Thomas G. Marquis, B.A. (1889). Boston: D. Lothrop Company.

The "Stories of New France" is a joint production as the title shows. Miss Machar is an old literary hand, and as might be expected her share of the work is done with the skill that comes from long practice. The desire to point a moral, betokening that the preacher is too strong for the artist, comes out once or twice, but where the heart is filled with the enthusiasm of humanity, this is almost inevitable.

Mr. Marquis tells the stories assigned to him with less literary finish, but with a grasp and distinctness of outline full of promise when his style gains freedom and he assays a more ambitious flight. The book fills a place that ought to ensure it a hearty welcome from Canadians. We trust that it may be read widely were it only that men of British descent might learn how much they owe to their fellow-citizens with French blood in their veins. While sympathizing with the sacrifices made by the men and women who came to Canada in the hundred and fifty years between Champlain's time and the great siege of Quebec, some of these stories indicate how inferior the civilization that came from France was to that which was introduced into New England. The story of the three war-parties throws a lurid light on the time. The men who massacred the villagers of Schenectady were lionized on their return to Montreal!

Some one should give us a companion volume to these stories containing sketches of representative British Canadians; the U. E. Loyalists who struggled through the forests to reach Ontario, and those who were thrown in thousands on the iron shores of the Maritime Provinces; Sir Guy Carleton and the heroes of Quebec; the gallant explorers and fur-traders of the North-West; the men of 1812-15 and their Indian allies; the Highland chiefs and clansmen and other pioneers to whom we owe Canada's present strength. Such a volume would supply a want that we have long felt. Compared to Quebec, the soil, too, is comparatively virgin, and the tiller of it would reap a rich reward. Perhaps Mr. Marquis may think this suggestion worth considering. In the meantime we thank him heartily for the beginning he has made, and we congratulate the joint authors on the pretty volume they have given us. We have read it from cover to cover and interest never for a moment flagged.

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Our early history is full of striking and romantic incidents and exploits, and should, to Canadians at least, be "familiar in our mouths as household words." To so desirable an end, the work before us should contribute much. The story of the French Regime is told quite fully in two series of tales, the first of which is Miss Machar's work, while Mr. Marquis has written all but one of the second. Conspicuous among Miss Machar's subjects are the wander-

ings of Champlain and La Salle, the founding of Montreal and Kingston, and the heroic work of the French Missionaries. Mr. Marquis has ably handled such heroic scenes as the exploit of Daulac, the defence of "Castle Dangerous," the expulsion of the Acadians, and the capture of Quebec. The last is one of the clearest accounts of the great siege we have read. The style of both authors is clear and easy, and the whole book will be found most interesting.

As the present method of teaching history in our schools apparently is to make the pupils learn the merest and driest catalogue, while the teacher has first to clothe upon that catalogue for his own benefit, and then to impart to the pupils such homeopathic doses as will reconcile them to the infliction, we would recommend this work to teachers as an excellent and interesting assistance. Indeed, we believe it will prove far more palatable to pupils themselves than the dry catalogue of bygone facts with which they are usually regaled. As a Canadian work, as a Canadian history, and as possessed of indubitable merit, we recommend it, not to teachers alone, but to all our fellow-students and readers.

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"RULES AND FORMS OF PROCEDURE." Issued by the Presbyterian News Company, Toronto.

This is a second edition of the work, carefully revised and enlarged, for the use of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. The first edition was brought out a few years after the Union of 1875 by a Committee of which Dr. Bell, now of Queen's College, was convener. It was a good work, well suited to the circumstances of the Church. Of course the lapse of years and change of circumstances showed where improvements might be made and gaps filled up. Accordingly, a few years ago when the first edition was exhausted, the General Assembly appointed a Committee to revise the book and to incorporate the legislation made in the interval. The Rev. Dr. Laing, of Dundas, was the convener. The work has been carefully done. Reports of changes proposed were presented at several meetings of Assembly and sent down to Presbyteries, and now the book is re-issued, enlarged and improved. One feature of it is worthy of notice. Such portions of legislation as have become in the technical sense stable law are printed in a different type, so that any reader can see at a glance what they are. The rest of the book has the authority of a useful guide, nothing more. At the same time what is laid down is for the most part the common law of all Presbyterian Churches. To Dr. Laing most of the credit is due. He has long been known as one of the best church lawyers in Canada. In what is now almost official language, we say let thanks be given to the committee, but especially to the convener, laying more than the usual stress on *especially*. We are glad to observe that Dr. Laing is in all likelihood to be the next Moderator of Assembly. He is worthy of it. Few men have rendered more laborious service to the Church at large than he has done.

There is learning enough in the world just now to solve any question that may arise; but there isn't wisdom enough, put it all together, to tell what makes one apple sweet and the next one sour.—*Ex.*