



## *The* WAY of LETTERS

FOR some time it has been felt by leading educationists, particularly in Ontario, that the work of the schools might be well supplemented by historical reading that would be accurate and inspiring, and yet not be so involved as to make it difficult of comprehension by juveniles. As a result, a most praiseworthy publishing venture has been made by William Briggs, under the auspices of the Ontario Library Association, and we now have the first volume of the "Canadian Heroes Series." This volume is entitled "The Story of Isaac Brock," and it was written expressly for the series by Walter R. Nursey. The author, without dwarfing his style or belittling the subject, has kept before him the fact that his book will be placed in the hands of boys and girls, and he has therefore presented the outstanding incidents in the life of the hero of Queenston in a simple yet vivid and comprehensive style. It is difficult for a writer on a subject of this kind to refrain from glorifying war and the bearing of arms, but Mr. Nursey has written with moderation and generally with creditable judgment. No other book offers to young readers in a manner so intelligible to them the story of Brock's life and the meaning of the War of 1812. It should make excellent supplementary reading in the schools,

and it should also be in the school libraries. As a Canadian production in every respect, it is worthy of genuine praise. It contains illustrations from photographs, old drawings and prints, and original paintings by C. W. Jefferys, C. M. Manly and Fergus Kyle. Six of them are reproduced by the tri-colour process, an expense that is not often incurred in the making of a book to sell at less than a dollar a volume. The binding is cloth, tastefully decorated, with a tri-colour insert. One of the most interesting of the illustrations is the reproduction of a photograph of the coat worn by Brock at the Battle of Queenston. The hole made by the bullet that ended the hero's life is plainly discernible. The publisher announces that "Tecumseh," by Mr. Norman Gird, of Sarnia, will be the next of the series. The idea of this series was brilliantly conceived, and this first volume has been carried out with distinction. (Toronto: William Briggs. Cloth, 85 cents).

✱

### RALPH CONNOR AS BIOGRAPHER

Many readers and admirers of Ralph Connor's novels will feel that, although "Black Rock," "The Sky Pilot" and the others that followed met with phenomenal success, it remained for "The Life of James Robertson" to show Rev. Dr. Charles W.