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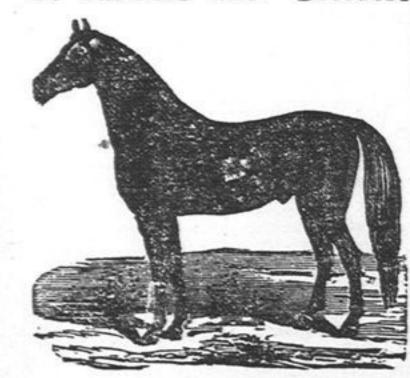
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The Globe Sounds a Timely Note About

Novels That Pervert History-Four Excellent Examples Sketched. The demand, of which much heard nowadays, that the importaof machines, manufactured goods and produce from the United States be restricted, might well be applied also to the tons of doubtful books, magazines and papers which the Canadian public buy from American publishers. People are evidently less particular about what they read than about the things they wear or the tools they work with, says The Toronto Globe; it is patriotic, in general, to buy Canadianmade wares, but a book or a magazine may be tolerated for its interest's sake, even if it be strongly

The most insidious form of this alien literature is the historical nevel. The history of the United States has been marked by a series or more or less stirring events which have made good copy for the writers of war stories. From this material scores of novels, some good, some only passable, and many mediocre, have been written during the past thirty or forty years, and they are still coming. These novels deal wi h events in which the thirteen colonies, and later the United States, were the party of the one part and Great Britain of the other. But when a novel of this kind, American in Canada and will give my patrons the theme and point of view, circulates in Canada its fitness ceases and it becomes a source of danger. In its own country it is a natural product and be it ever so rabidly anti-British it can be pardoned; but when it comes into British territory its alienism chafes or would chafe if we had not grown to expect and even tle, sometimes much. to welcome that sort of thing. Of recent novels one of the most

open offenders in this respect is "D'ri and I," by Irving Bacheller. Its scenes are laid during the war of 1812, immediately preceding and following the naval engagements on La'e Ontario. The heroes in the story are very brave and just, and very ardent patriots; the enemy-the British-a e cowards, cruel tyrants. and inhuman. They are made the butt of ingenious trickery, a handful of Yankee recruits disposing of them once with a hose of water and again by rel asing a few nests of hornets upon them. Where they do not figure on the losing side, the British are unfeeling tyrants. Canadian soil is made the scene of a midnight torture, whose intent was to kill the two heroes, then prisoners of war. Fscaping from the British clutch, they reached the southern shore not far from their own camp.

"Listening, we heard the faint, familiar strains of Yankee Doodle, We came ashore in silence, and hugged the nearest tree, and was not able to say the 'Thank God,' that fell from my lips only half spo-

D'ri afterward explained the adventure, referring to the Canadian country in these terms:-

"'Seems so we come ashore 'bout here," said he, dropping the middle finger of his right hand in the vicinity of Quebec. "Then we traveled aw-a-a-av hellwards over 'n this 'ere direction.' With that illuminating remark he had slid his finger over some two hundred leagues of country from Quebec to Michigan."

This same D'ri, the real hero of the story, maintains an attitude of intense spitefulness against everything British; in the fight on Perry's brig, "Lawrence," he is animathe is so recklessly brave that the reader, it is taken for granted, must applaud and admire. Throughout the story is built upon the unpopular character of the British position and action, and the contrasting justice of the American campaign.

A later production, "Hearts Cour-

ageous," by H. E. Rives, goes back to the declaration of independence, when Patrick Henry incited the burgesses of Virginia to rebellion. Here again the British are made to appear as unscrupulous ruffians, devoid of honor either as men or as soldiers. One of them, Captain Jarratt, beats an old colored woman to within an inch of her death because she will not give up a paper; another traduces the character of George Washington, and fights the inevitable duel for it. Lord Cornwallis plays a sorry part. Patrick Henry, in contrast, has the heroic role of starting the revolution, tirelessly scouring the country, inflaming the populace, opposing the bloody threats of the sinister Governor," and calling for deliverance from the bondage and oppression of the British. Another such a Jefferson, his revolutionary colleague. A French Marquis is introduced, who intrigues against the British, fails into their barabrous hands, escapes, and becomes a hero of the noblest order. The colonial maiden, whose love affair runs through the story is ardently American, and for her love's sake suffers British indignities. A revolutionary story is this, well filled with subtle eagleism.

Very similar in motive is "The Master of Appleby," by Francis Lynde, another of last year's books. whose scenes are laid in Carolina during revolutionary times. In this British are again described as unfeeling tyrants, resorting to methods altogether fiendish. They employ Indian scouts and scalpers, and subject their captives, even helpless women, to brutal tortures. Col. Tarleton and Sir Francis Falconnet, the two most prominent English ofcause and its upholders.

"Alice of Old Vincennes," by the setting aside of the clergy re-Maurice Thompson, is a fourth ex- serves, and also the separation of ample of American history-twisting the French and English inhabitants in the guise of a racy novel. In a of Canada. The bill was intended how's of Thompson's it may be ex- to give the people the shadow of the Fight William While denving

A WARNING TO CANADIANS. pected that there should be better art than in the writings of the lesser novelists, but the attitude is precisely the same. There is a bad English officer to contrast with brave young American; there is the same old tale of British indignities heaped upon a beautiful heroine, and the dramatic climax of the story the levelling of the British flag and the unfurling of "Old Glory" in its place by the same heroine. The fort Vincennes, an important point during the revolutionary campaign in Thio, is the centre of a conflict conducted with great harshness, but poor soldiery, on one side, and with great skill on the other. From first to last it is a picture which paints the British in unenviable colors; the old French-American village was an idyllic place before the British came, and Paradise was only regained after the triumph of the revolution-

> Of such are the historical novels written in glorification of the American past, and read with apparently as much interest in Canada as in the United States. These four, which are but instances of the latest publications, have sold widely in this country, and have been very favorably received as timely additions to the literature of the continent. People are still reading them, admiring the heroes and the heroines, sympathizing with their hardships, and rejoicing in their deliverances. verisimilitude of a successful novel demands the reader's sympathy with the hero and with his point of view, and so when one reads these American tales he becomes necessarily anti-British in his feelings. The effect of this is not always transient; it leaves its impress, and one's patriotic sentiments suffer, sometimes lit-

> The greatest danger is of course with young readers, to whom a hero is always in the right, and whose attitude is unreservedly one of sympathy with that hero. To such readers these novels serve as history lessons, more appreciated and longer remembered than any book of more historical facts or chronicles. They may be admirable reading matter for American youths, who are thereby moved to greater faith and pride in their country; but the same effect is left upon the Canadian youth, with this difference; that an increased approval of American history means a lessening of pride in Canadian or British history.

> The past history of Canada is fill ed with incidents that should furnish abundant literary material. There are novel plots as good as the best American waiting for the Canadian novelist, who, with a native faith in his country, shall write the historical tales we all are looking for. They will have the added advantage of not being worn out. But till such writers and such novels of our own production shall appear must we continue to import and imbibe the productions of alien writers and publishers, in which there lurk seeds of certain evil? What American school books used to do in this denationalizing respect, the popular historical novels are now doing in more tempting but more insidious form. It is time that Canadian self-pride were more apparent.

THE GREAT ADVENTURE.

There's many a quiet seaport that waits the daring sail; There's many a lonely farer by many doubtful trail.

And what should be their star To lead them safe and far-What guide to take them o'er the crest, what pilot past the bared by an "Old Glory" fever in which | Save Love, the great adventurer, who will

> a voyager might remember how the face of earth was changed, All the dreary grey of winter forgotten and estranged-When he rode the tempest through And steered into the blue

Of a tranquil tropic morning diaphanous and new. ith palms upon the sca-rim where the flying fishes ranged: As a lover in old story on a night of wind

Might have stood beneath a window till a lamp should light the pane. And a lady lean one arm On the glowing square and warm, girlish, golden figure in a frame of dark and storm-

Then set a stubborn shoulder to wind and sleet and snow. With the weather foul above him and the pavement foul below: So It happened in my case; When I saw her, every trace

To look the longest moment ere he turned

to life again-

Of doubt and fear and languor to the pulse of joy gave place. And the world was great and goodly as He planned it long age.

there's a shipman who goes sailing where the sea is round and high: There's a lover who goes piping where winds of morning cry; And the lilt beneath his heart Was timed to stop and start,

hills fall apart. friends, that minstrel-lover, that mar-

no more ships go sailing and the great

-Bliss Carman.

WE HAVE A HISTORY. The Talbot and Simcoe Celebrations Em-

phasize the Potent Fact.

The unveiling of a monument

Governor Simcoe, like the Talbot anniversary celebration, carries us back a century, and gives us a feeling that this Province has a history. Simcoe was the first Governor of

was divided into a French and English section. He was a member of the Parliament which passed the Constitutional Act of 1791, heard the debate between Pitt and ficers, are arch-fiends, against whom Fox. Fox declaimed against the nooa; John Downer's, Valentia, for the always-innocent American pa- bill, as an attempt to introduce into triots wage an unequal but finally the New World those aristocratic no-Tuesday, Wm. Downer's, lot 8, con. triumphant conflict. Lord Cornwal- tions which were declining in the old. 3, Marip sa, for noon; Little Britain lis is again a losing leader, and is He asked if those red and blue ribmade the dupe of the hero-spy, for bons which had lost their lustre in Wednesday will proceed to his own trickery on the winning side is pard- the Old World were to shine forth in onable. Few books are more plainly the new. It seemed to him a peculanti-British in sympathy than this, iar proposal to introduce hereditary and fow are less particular as to honors in America, "where those arthe terms applied to the British tificial distinctions stunk in the nostrils of the natives." He condemned

Simcoe certainly believed that he was giving to Canada "the express image and transcript of the British constitution," and made a conscientious effort to carry out that idea. History gives us a pleasant account of the calling of the Little Parliament at Newark, now Niagara, and how the honest settlers found their parliamentary honors embarrassing, as they were called away from their farms in the busy harvest season. Those who could come were detained only a month, and, in the beautiful October weather, they wended their way home on horseback, through forest paths or in bark canoes. In honoring such men as Talbot and Simcoe, we make our nearest approach to honoring the pioneers to whom we are so largely indebted, McMullen has given a most interesting account of their labors:

"The backwoodsman, whose fortunes are cast in the remote inland settlements of the present day, far removed from churches, destitute of ministers of the Gospel and medical men, without schools, or roads, the many conveniences that make life desirable can alone appreciate, or even understand the numerous difficulties and hardships that beset the settler among the ague swamps of Western Canada. The clothes on his back, with a rifle or old musket and a well-tempered ax, were not unfrequently the full extent of his worldly possessions. Thus lightly equipped, he took possession of his ed forest land, and commenced op- stock. Thes: comprise the daintiest erations. The welkin rings again with his vigorous strokes, as huge tree after tree is assailed and tumbled to the earth; and the sun presently shines in upon the little clearing. The best of the logs are partially squared, and serve to build a shanty; the remainder are given to the flames. Now the rich mould, the accumulation of centuries of decaying vegetation, is gathered into little hillocks, into which potatoes are dibbled. Indian corn is planted in another direction, and, perhaps, little wheat. If married, the lonely couple struggle on in their forest oasis like the solitary traveler over the sands of Sahara, or a boat adrift on the Atlantic. The nearest neighbor lives miles off, and when sickness

comes, they have to travel far through the forest to claim human sympathy. But, fortunately, our nature, with elastic temperament, adapts itself to circumstances. By and by the potatoes peep up, and the corn blades modestly show themselves around the charred maple stumps and girdled pines, and the prospect of sufficiency of food gives consolation. As winter approaches, a deer now and then adds to the comforts of the solitary people. Such were the mass of the first settlers in Western Canada." We do well to honor all those who

discharged faithfully their duties as the builders of Canada, says The Toronto World. But we should like to see a monument erected somewhere to these pioneers themselves, both men and women, whose names and industry transformed a wilderness into the pleasant and wealthy country in which it is our good fortune to live.

Lower Town, Quebec.

The streets in the Lower Town of ancient Quebec are full these days of honeymooners, and they are well worthy of a day's attention; among the most interesting are Sault au Matelot, Sous le Cap, the narrowest street in the world, and Little Champlain street, where, hardly wider than a carriage track, with steep- William-st., North roofed, plaster-covered houses huddled together on each side, straggles along for a half mile, hugging the side of the nearby perpendicular rocky wall, which, 350 feet above, is surmounted by the fortress. The old wooden "break-neck steps"

at the head of the street have been removed and an escalier of iron has taken their place; otherwise, the street remains nnchanged save that. here and there, is seen an old stone house fast crumbling into ruin, and the pile of stones and mortar that, a few years ago, demolished several houses and cost several unfortunate people their lives.

If the bride cares for afternoon tea, she is likely to pilot her liege lord into the Kent House on St. Louis street, where they will receive "a warm welcome and a warmer cup of tea" from Miss Yates, who is a friend to all honeymooners and delights in showing to them her superb collection of antique china, furniture, brasses and all sorts of curios; and the tea! Miss Yates' tea, say the brides, tastes so different from ordinary English breakfast or Oolong.

Well it may, for it is served in eggshell cups of fragile china, over 100 years old; an ancient "Toby" jug holds the hot water while a dear little pitcher of genuine lustre ware holds the golden cream; and in m covered dish of blue and white Canton that is their envy and despair, steam slices of butter toast, a rare old plate from a famous London coffee house of e,den times heaped high with cakes that fairly melt in one's

And they are tempted to break the commandment, "Thou shalt not covet," when they see this wealth ancient treasures, gathered principal-Upper Canada after the Province ly in Quebec and vicinity. The collection is as famous and well known in its way as even the citadel it-

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