

candour, the fairness, the learning, the devout reverence of spirit, the unflinching search for truth, of this great writer.

Constance of Acadia. Cr. 8vo., pp. 368. Boston: Roberts Brothers.

There is no more romantic episode in colonial history than the story of the heroic Constance of Acadia, Madam LaTour. This intrepid woman, an Acadian Jean d'Arc, after a prolonged conflict with the unchivalric Seigneur d'Aulnay Charnisy, in which she narrowly escaped capture by his piratical ships—valiantly defended, in her husband's absence, the fort at the mouth of the St. John. With a little handful of soldiers she rushed to the ramparts, firing the cannon with her own hand, and repulsing an attack by a far superior force. When, anxious to save life, she at length capitulated, the false-hearted d'Aulnay treacherously broke his plighted word and hanged every man of the garrison save one, who had the baseness to act as executioner of his comrades. As a crowning atrocity, the titled ruffian compelled the twice-betrayed lady to witness the cruel spectacle, as an additional indignity wearing a halter about her neck. Such is the outline of the stirring story which in this volume is wreathed with the grace and pathos of imagination and poetry. Every patriotic Canadian, especially those dwelling within the confines of ancient Acadia, will find this story intensely interesting and historically instructive.

General Gordon, Hero and Saint.
By ANNIE E. KEELING. Pp. 269.
Illustrated. London: T. Woolmer.

The age of chivalry has not passed. The names of Vicars, Havelock, Lawrence, Gordon, would render illustrious any age. The story of Gordon, hero and saint, shall be for all time an inspiration to heroism. The record of his life reads like a perpetual romance. Although a man of war from his youth, who sadly wrote of himself toward the close of his splendid military career, "killing people, or devising means to do so,

has been my lot," it has been said that "Gordon was the nearest approach to the one man Christ Jesus of any man that ever lived." Miss Keeling has done an admirable service in bringing within a compendious and inexpensive volume the record of this remarkable life—more strange than the strangest tales of romance. She follows his marvellous career in China, at Galatz, in Equatorial Africa, in the Soudan, in Abyssinia, in India, China again, the Holy Land, and finally in his tragical mission to Khartoum. Yet no glory of his life was grander than his teaching the ragged boys of Gravesend the way to the Saviour. This book should be a household treasure.

Nature: Musings on Holy-Days and Holidays. By the REV. NEHEMIAH CURNOCK. With an Introduction by W. H. DALLINGER, LL.D., F.R.S. Pp. 232. London: T. Woolmer.

This is another of those books of the fairy tales of science which are more wonderful than the fairy tales of fiction. The author, who is a keen and loving observer of the world of nature, describes with pen and pencil the wonders of sea and shore and pond and stream and air. There is a fascination in the study of the plans and methods upon which God constructed the vast variety of nature—the infinitely little no less than the infinitely great. Through all these marvels and miracles of grace and beauty the author devoutly looks "from nature up to nature's God." The numerous engravings are exceedingly clear and of photographic fidelity to life.

Report of the Superintendent of Education for the Protestant Schools of Manitoba for the year ending January, 1886.

The progress of education in the great and growing North-West is simply marvellous. In the year 1871 there was but 1 teacher and 30 pupils in Winnipeg; now there are 45 teachers and 2,300 pupils enrolled. In the whole Province there were, in 1871, 16 schools and an attendance