

The poem has a tender quaintness of its own. "It was with a smile on my lips that I wrote it," said the author. "I cannot read it without a sigh of tender remembrance." The illustrations are extremely sympathetic, and many of them are as quaint as the poem. The village streets, the town crier, the wintry woods, the leafless forest, the deserted graveyard, are illustrated with poetic suggestiveness. The most pathetic of all is that of the old man bending in the twilight over the mossy slab deciphering the half-effaced but well beloved name.

The mossy marbles rest  
On the lips that he has prest  
In their bloom,  
And the names he loved to hear  
Have been carved for many a year  
On the tomb.

*Eastern Customs in Bible Lands.*

By H. B. TRISTRAM, LL.D., D.D.,  
Canon of Durham. New York:  
Thomas Whittaker. Toronto:  
William Briggs. Price, \$1.50.

Canon Tristram has written some of the most valuable books of travel and exploration in Bible lands. He brings to his task a thorough acquaintance with the original tongues of the Old and New Testaments, and a wide experience and observation derived from repeated journeys in Palestine. In this volume he gives us the result of his studies and observation in a series of instructive chapters. He describes journeying in the East, Feasts and Festivals, Pastoral and Agricultural Life, Costumes and Customs, Wars and Sieges, Jurisprudence, Trade, Money, Taxation, etc. He also throws much light on the ministry of Jesus as Teacher and Healer, and on many passages of the Old and New Testament. The book will be a valuable aid to Bible study.

*Lectures and Essays.* By PROF. GOLDWIN SMITH. Toronto: Copp, Clark Company, Limited. New York: Macmillan & Company. Price, \$2.50.

It is a gratifying feature in the history of Canadian literature that the distinguished scholar who for a score

of years has made his home among us should have so thoroughly identified himself with his adopted home. A large proportion of the essays contained in this volume first appeared in the *Canadian Monthly* or other Canadian periodicals. The historical essays are marked by the wide reading, the keen insight and the felicitous phrasing, which are so striking a characteristic of this writer. Among these are noble studies of the "Greatness of the Romans," "The Greatness of England" and "The Great Duel of the Seventeenth Century." The latter is the most brilliant account of the great struggle between Gustavus Adolphus and Wallenstein and Tilly that we have ever read. Other historical papers are "Falkland and the Puritans," "A Wire-puller of Kings,"—A Character-Study of Baron Stockmar—"The Early Years of Wolfe," "King Alfred," "Abraham Lincoln," and "A True Captain of Industry—Mr. Brassey, Constructor of the Grand Trunk Railway." There are also a number of papers on literary and social topics that will interest every reader.

*Documentary History of Canada.*

From the Passing of the Constitutional Act, of 1791, to the Close of Rev. Dr. Ryerson's Administration of the Education Department in 1876. Vol. I: 1790-1830. By J. GEO. HODGINS, M.A., LL.D. Toronto: Warwick Bros. & Rutter, and William Briggs.

To few men is it given—we doubt if it has ever occurred before—to give half a century of service to the educational interests of their country. This has been the happy experience of Dr. J. George Hodgins. The present work, and the complementary volume which we may shortly expect, will be a fitting crown to this long-continued public service. *Finitis coronat opus.*

The preparation of this work has been a labour of love. It has involved much delving amid the records of the past, and patient collection of documentary evidence