

Plantation Life by "Porte Crayon," Miss Houghton, and Edmund Kirke, are very racy reading. Amelia A. Barr, the accomplished author of "Jan Vedder's Wife," tells of her "house-keeping in Texas," and W. E. Rideing, and other well-known "magazinists," describe the wild life and adventure of the frontier and the Rockies. The elegant binding and illustrations, make this a handsome parlour book.

Life and Travel in India. By ANNA HARRIETTE LEONOWENS. Philadelphia: Porter & Coates. Toronto: William Briggs. 8vo. Pp. 325, copiously illustrated. Price \$2.50.

The author of this handsome book has previously achieved success through her charming narratives of Eastern life, "The Romance of the Harem" and "An English Governess at the Siamese Court." We do not know whether the lady is a Canadian or not, although the preface to this volume is dated Halifax, N.S. She went to India single, but soon married a gentleman connected with the army, and had exceptional opportunities of seeing whatever is best worth seeing in that wonderland. She records with a cultured lady's keen observation and vivid description her adventures and experiences during a protracted residence in the country. The account of the religious ideas and customs of the people, and of their social and domestic relations are of especial

interest. One of the chief attractions of the book is its copious illustration. The engravings illustrate the magnificent Indian architecture, temples, palaces, and tombs—the wonderful Taj Mahal is well shown—also types of native races, costume, etc., incidents of travel. The book is elegantly bound in old gold and is at once æsthetic and instructive.

Methodism in the Light of the Early Church; being the Fernley Lecture of 1885. By the Rev. W. F. SLATER, M.A. 8vo, pp. 166. London: Wesleyan Conference Office. Toronto: William Briggs. Price 2s. 6d. sterling.

This book is a considerable expansion of the address given before the Wesleyan Conference. It is divided into convenient sections, and its statements corroborated by abundant citations, foot-notes and appendices. The affinity, the moral identity of Methodism with primitive Christianity is clearly shown and its "apostolicity" amply vindicated. The chapters on "Unity" and "Catholicity" are very instructive. Though correlative terms they are independent. No church exhibits so great a degree of unity, as, by its Connexionalism, does the Methodist Church. Its spread is the great religious phenomenon of the nineteenth century. This volume is an admirable contribution to the denominational literature of Methodism.

O BLESSED day, which givest the eternal lie
To self and sense, and all the brute within !
O ! come to us, amid this war of life ;
To hall and hovel, come ; to all who toil
In senate, shop, or study ; and to those
Who, sundered by the wastes of half a world,
Ill-warmed and sorely tempted, ever face
Nature's brute powers, and men unmanned to brutes,
Come to them, blest and blessing, Christmas Day.
Tell them once more the tale of Bethlehem,
The kneeling shepherds and the Babe divine,
And keep them inen indeed, fair Christmas Day.

—Charles Kingsley.