

able degree been achieved in the volume before us. Certainly no history of Methodism has ever been embodied in such a handsome exterior, nor adorned with such numerous and excellent engravings. No less than two hundred and fifty of these illustrate its pages, besides several maps and charts. Many of these engravings are remarkable for their artistic elegance, as, for instance, those of Oxford and its historic scenes. To their minute accuracy we can bear personal testimony. Others are of much biographical interest, as the portraits of the Wesleys and other leaders of Methodism.

Mr. Daniels has certain very happy qualifications for his somewhat difficult task. He has the literary skill which comes by long practice, and the laborious industry in collating and condensing which are essential in a work of this sort. He has a lively narrative style, and good taste in the selection and arrangement of materials. The personal sketches are drawn with a free hand. He traces the development of character of John Wesley from the High Church ritualism of his early days to the broad charity, evangelical piety, and wise statesmanship of his riper years. Due prominence is given to the grand missionary achievements of Methodism, which have been her crown of glory—a crown which was never more lustrous than at the present day.

The portraiture of John Wesley, of course, occupies a larger space than that of the other leaders of this great world-movement. But the other prominent actors are also graphically sketched—Charles Wesley, Whitefield, Fletcher, Adam Clarke, Ouseley (whose name, by the way, is wrongly spelled in the contents, but correctly in the text), and others.

The subject of American Methodism is very fully treated. Portraits and sketches of Embury, Barbara Heck, Captain Webb, Asbury, Jesse Lee, Dr. Coke and the brave pioneers in the Wilderness Missions are given. The wonderful development of later years, without a parallel in the

religious history of the world, is also traced, with numerous illustrations of the prominent men of Methodism, both living and dead.

Modern British and Colonial Methodism receives rather scant treatment. The prominent events of the former are concisely stated, and portraits are given of Drs. Bunting, Pope, Rigg, Punshon, Smith and Jobson, and of Revs. Richard Watson and William Arthur. The space given to Canadian Methodism is inadequate, and is largely taken up with sketches of individuals. A worthy tribute, however, is paid to the Rev. William Case, the Father of Canadian Missions, of whom a good portrait is given. Portraits are also given of Drs. Ryerson, Wood, and Pickard, and of Bishop Carman. For a compendious account of its great epochs and events, and of its later development, our readers must have recourse to the series of essays by the Rev. Dr. Ryerson, which are begun in the present number of this magazine.

Notwithstanding the defects we have noticed, however, the bulk of the volume is really admirable, its mechanical execution is superb, and it is exceedingly good value for the price. To a fuller discussion of some of its important topics we may return at another time.

We learn, as we go to press, that the second edition of this book, which we understand is now being printed, will contain a much larger space devoted to Canadian Methodism. This will quite disarm the above criticism, and will make this book one of exceeding value to every Canadian Methodist.

The Lesson Commentary on the International S. S. Lessons for 1880.

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The International system of S. S. Lessons has focused the thought of the best minds in Christendom upon the same portions of Holy Scripture.