

BOOK NOTICES.

MEMOIR OF PIERRE TOUSSAINT, *born a Slave in St. Domingo*. By the Author of "Three Experiments of Living," &c. Boston: Crosby, Nichols & Co. For sale, in Montreal, by B. Dawson, Place d'Armes.

THE public ought to feel indebted to the accomplished lady who has written this book. It is written in a simple style, as such a memoir should be, and with a fine appreciation of its subject. Pierre Toussaint, though born a slave, had a larger measure of true manhood in him than the majority of those who are born free. The record of such a character is likely to put most of us to shame, and yet it is to be hoped that it will also stimulate us to imitation. His fidelity was strong, his self-denial rare, his generosity pure, beautiful and touching. The wealthy family in whose household he was born were unexpectedly bereaved of their property, through the political troubles of St. Domingo, and were compelled to remove to New York. Here Toussaint, by practising as a *Coiffeur*, maintained his mistress, who was now a widow; her husband having died amid the first shock of their deprivation. He ministered to her comfort by every means in his power, and all this as an affectionate free will offering, for he was no longer a slave, but his own master. His fidelity and attention remained till her death. His character was consistent throughout. He was a devout Catholic, "and for sixty years he attended Mass at six in the morning as punctual as a clock." And combined with this, he had an appreciation of essential truth wherever he met it. He heard a sermon once from Dr. Channing, from which he often quoted, "Jesus can give you nothing so precious as himself, as his own mind. Do not