

ANNOUNCEMENT.

The "Habitant" or French-Canadian peasant is the most interesting and picturesque figure on the North American continent. Much has been written about him in prose and verse, but it remained for a busy physician of Montreal, Canada, to make of him a literary sensation. This is what Doctor William Henry Drummond, in his beautiful poems, descriptive of the "Habitant" life and character has done. It is not too much to say that in these poems Doctor Drummond has ushered us into a new land of song. They are in a new dialect, the queerest, quaintest, funniest, ever written—the speech of uneducated, but intelligent country folk with souls full of poetry and piety and patriotism who are supposed to be telling the story of their joys and sorrows to English auditors not conversant with the French tongue. The rhymes are deftly turned with a felicitous combination of French and English sounds which is full of delightful surprises. The stories told are brimful of humor and often have a pathos that touches the deepest springs of feeling.

Geo. W. Cable said of them: "They glow with tenderness and drollery, as a cottage window with firelight." The Boston Globe says: "There is nothing to equal them in fun making," and Richard Henry Stoddard pronounces them "the most notable poems of their kind yet written by our American poets."

The lecture, "Some French-Canadian Poetry," to which attention is hereby invited, affords a delightful entertainment, and has met with an enthusiastic reception wherever given. It sketches briefly the personality of the poet and the life of the people of whom he writes, but is mainly devoted to the reading of choice selections from Doctor Drummond's "Habitant" poems. It should be understood that these poems are in English, their occasional French idioms being interpreted as they occur.

Permission to use his work for this entertainment has been secured from the author.