## THE CANADIAN

## METHODIST MAGAZINE.

AUGUST. 1880.

## THE REV. WILLIAM BRIGGS.

BY THE REV. JOHN CARROLL, D.D.

"How Men are Made," was the title of one of the most interesting lectures to which we were ever favoured to listen—one by an English celebrity. Our present subject is emphatically a man—physically, mentally, morally, and socially; and it may be useful to ask under what circumstances his manhood has been developed and consummated. At the age of forty-four, he is neither noticeably large nor small, juvenile nor elderly; but an average man for height, breadth, and weight; straight, trimbuilt, full-chested, oval yet full-faced, with a noticeably well-developed head, beyond the average size. Furthermore, looks healthy, being somewhat embrowned, and enduring.

As a man, he is modest without bashfulness; as a Christian, religious without cant; as a preacher, fervent and eloquent without rant; as a platform speaker, ready, pointed, and pertinent; and as a Connexional business man, capable and successful without being fussy and pretentious.

It becomes a question of interest, therefore, we repeat, to know what antecedents and influences contributed, under God, to this issue. We find he was the child of a worthy Scotch mother, whom he had, however, the misfortune to lose at the early age of six years; which loss, it may be, developed self-reliance while yet young. His pious father, a Wesleyan class-leader, most assiduously, and, as it proved, successfully, endeavoured to perform the two-fold parental duties which thus

Vol. XII.—No. 2.