

Daniel Ostrom and his Religious Notions. By the REV. MARK GUY PEARSE. 12mo., pp. 202. Illustrated. Nelson & Phillips, New York; Methodist Book Rooms, Toronto, Montreal, and Halifax.

THIS is a *fac simile*, engravings and all, of the English edition of this remarkable work previously noticed in these pages. Of its racy style our readers have had a specimen in the chapters reprinted in this Magazine. We are sure that they will whet their appetite for the feast of good things in the volume itself. The English sale of this book has averaged a thousand a month since its issue—a very remarkable literary success. It is the best presentation extant of Cornish Methodism, with its homely shrewdness, its pathos, its picturesqueness, and its spiritual fervour.

Discourses Illustrative of Sacred Truths. By WILLIAM COOKE, D.D. Crown 8vo., pp. 534. Hamilton & Adams, London; Methodist Book Rooms, Toronto, Montreal, and Halifax.—\$1.65.

THE readers of this Magazine do not need to be told of Dr. Cooke's distinguished ability in the illustration of sacred truth. In this volume that ability is no less conspicuous than it has been exhibited in contributions to these pages. It contains nineteen important discourses which have been, for the most part, preached on special occasions—many of them before the Conferences of the New Connexion Church in Great Britain. These discourses are characterized by the same luminous treatment, vigorous diction, and practical purpose of religious instruction and edification that mark all his writings. They are not as well known in Canada as their superior merit deserves. The volume contains the first published sermon of the author, preached in 1836; and now, after an interval of forty years, the veteran

divine, after a long active life of missionary and literary labour, in his seventieth year has charge of an important London circuit. May he long be spared to bless the world by both tongue and pen.

The Legend of the Roses; A Poem: Ravlan; A Drama. By SAMUEL JAMES WATSON. 12mo., pp. 228. Hunter, Rose & Co., Toronto.

WORKS of Canadian authorship, especially poetical works, are sufficiently rare to make one regard with especial interest each successive addition to our national literature. It is therefore an unfeigned pleasure to be able to pass such a favourable verdict as we feel that it deserves upon the present volume. Mr. Watson has shown himself to possess the true poetical spirit—the keen, quick sympathy, the musical ear, the artistic touch, without which a man may write verses, but not poetry. The first and shorter poem is a sweet mediæval legend, taken from the quaint old “*Voiage and Travaile of Sir John Maundeville*.” An orphan Jewish maiden was condemned to death on the accusation of idolatry by her covetous uncle. But as the flames rose around her form they changed to red and white roses, and Christ the Healer and Friend of the people delivered her from her peril. “And these weren the first roses, both white and rede, that ever ony man saughe.” The characters of the bigot priests and skeptic Sadducee, of the Jewish Sanhedrim, of the Roman soldiers, and of the Greek who had witnessed the miracles of Christ are well limned. The account by the latter of the resurrection of Lazarus is intensely realistic. See extract on page 246.

Ravlan is a powerfully written tragedy, whose scene is laid in Britain in the time of the Druids. The plot is too complex to indicate, but the drama gives evidence of the careful study of the best of all poetic