

Colonial book." It is true that the Colonists have for the most part distinguished themselves in the world of action rather than that of letters. They have been fighting England's battles, and carrying England's name to the ends of the earth, and founding a Greater Britain for the extension and diffusion of British liberties, British institutions and British laws. But they have not been altogether idle in the world of letters. A Canadian's "History of Charles the Bold," is an acknowledged masterpiece of literature. A Canadian dramatic poem, "Saul," extorted from a British critic the praise that few grander things have been done since Shakespeare wrote. Canadian history has been well and fully written by Canadian pens. The Canadian press will compare favorably with that of any land. A Canadian, Sir W. Logan, and Principal Dawson, and Professors Croft and Hind, are acknowledged masters in science the world over. And we hope that our CANADIAN METHODIST MAGAZINE shall be a not unimportant contribution to the fostering and development of a worthy Canadian literature.

But the culture of literature in itself is not our object. That is only a means to an end. Unless literature is instinct with high moral principles it will be a curse rather than a blessing. It is a literature loyal to Methodism and to truth that we wish to develop—a literature that shall unfold our principles, defend our doctrines and illustrate our polity. Yet it is not a narrow, sectarian literature that we seek to educe. Methodist bigotry is the worst kind of bigotry, because it is so opposed to the genius of Methodism's free institutions. Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; these things we shall endeavour to promote and to urge upon the hearts and consciences of our readers.

We do not purpose to confine ourselves exclusively to what might be called strictly religious subjects. The late Dr. Arnold remarked that what the times demand is not so much a distinctively religious literature, as secular subjects treated from a religious point of view. We believe that the age wants both of these kinds of literature, and it is our purpose to contribute to the supply of that want. We hope that all the varied interests