

historical writers who combine such rare gifts as Francis Parkman. If we except Washington Irving and Prescott, there is no American writer who shows greater skill in giving full value to his researches. Even Motley, though a writer of considerable talent, is not, on the whole, so great a master of his pen as Parkman; indeed the latter pleases, both by what he says and by an impression which he leaves of saying less than he might say, and by avoiding alike undue emphasis and artificial exaggeration.

His "Montcalm and Wolfe" will take its place as a master-piece in military history. It is probably the best account of the most important war in our colonial period.

In addition to the important historical writings, he furnished numerous articles to magazines, and in 1856 put forth a novel entitled "*Vassal Morton*." The scenes of the story are those of recent days, and in its progress the reader is presented with pictures of life on both sides of the Atlantic.

In 1866 he published "*The Book of Roses*," and it may almost have escaped recollection that during 1871-72 he was Professor of Horticulture at Harvard.

He received the degree of B.A. at Harvard in 1844, and a few years later that of M.A.; he was afterwards made an honorary LL.D., a degree which had previously been conferred upon him by McGill University and by Williams College of Massachusetts. At the time of his death Dr. Parkman was one of the seven members of the Corporation of Harvard University, a position he had held for sixteen years. He was also President of the Massachusetts Historical Society, corresponding member of the Royal Society of Canada, and

member of most of the historical societies of Canada and the United States, as well as of various learned societies in England, and on the Continent of Europe.

It may be added that during the later years of his life he suffered from a disease of the eyes which made the use of them often impossible and at best precarious; but such was his energy and indomitable perseverance that he worked on at his life-work in spite of all impediments.

THE ROYAL VICTORIA HOSPITAL.

On Saturday, the 1st of December, this great monument of generosity was formally opened by His Excellency Lord Aberdeen. This event is of importance not merely to the city of Montreal but to Canada at large. The conception of this noble tribute to our gracious Queen, intended to commemorate the jubilee of her illustrious reign, we owe to Lord Mount-Stephen and Sir Donald A. Smith, the latter of whom is the Chancellor of our University. To both these generous-hearted men Montreal is indebted for many solid advantages. McGill University especially owes a debt of gratitude to Sir Donald, which it can only repay by making the most of the great boons which he has conferred upon it. To the University, and more particularly to the Medical Faculty, the completion of this Hospital is a matter of vital moment.

It is the proud boast of McGill that the clinical training which her students receive is unsurpassed on the continent. Apart from the admirable and enthusiastic staff of teachers, much of this is due to the excellent hospitals which are found in Montreal. Sit-



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