

been Dr. McCrie's rather sapless and uninteresting book. The accomplished pastor of Broadway Tabernacle has found here a congenial theme for his graceful pen. The stirring tale is told with a force and fire that warms the blood in the reader's veins. Though no admirer of Calvinism, the present writer has rarely been so deeply moved as when he stood in the chamber where John Knox died, and sat at the desk where he wrote, and stood in the pulpit where he preached, and over the slab which marks his grave beneath the pavement of the public street. To read his life-story, as told in this book, is to receive an inspiration to purity, to patriotism and to prayer.

Missionary Scenes in Many Lands.

By EDWARD BARRASS, M.A. Toronto: Methodist Mission Rooms.

Our versatile friend, the Rev. E. Barrass, has added another to his many literary achievements. The present volume contains an admirable summary of missionary intelligence respecting Japan, Fiji, the Friendly Islands, New Zealand, and Africa, with interesting sketches of Bishop William Taylor, and a native African preacher. The book is exceedingly interesting and instructive. It should be in every Sunday-school as an incentive to missionary zeal. It is beautifully printed and illustrated.

Trajan. The History of a Sentimental Young Man. By HENRY F. KEENAN. 12mo. Pp. 650. New York: Cassell & Company. Price \$1.50.

This story attracted much attention as it appeared in the short-lived but brilliant *Manhattan Magazine*; and when that periodical came to an untimely end, the publishers were besieged with inquiries as to when the story would be completed and republished. It treats with much minuteness of detail the stirring period of the last days of the French Empire, and the siege of Paris, and revolt of the Commune. It gives a graphic picture of those troublous times and throws much light on the causes of the collapse of Napoleon's house of cards. The American colony

in Paris figures largely in its pages. We don't know that we can quite agree with the opinion of an American critic that this is much the best novel that has appeared for years in the English or any other language; but it is certainly much above the average. It is crisp and epigrammatic in style, rapid in movement, and ingenious in plot. Its descriptions are surcharged with the bright and humorous atmosphere of the loveliest city in the world.

National Academy Notes and Complete Catalogue, 1885. Edited by CHAS. M. KURTZ. Illustrated. Price 50 cents.

For several years Mr. Kurtz has issued a hand-book of the spring exhibition at the National Academy. The issue of this year we think the best of the series. It contains 95 illustrations of the pictures exhibited, 85 of which are from reduced drawings by the artists. The book is invaluable as a key to the exhibition, is a pleasing souvenir of a visit, and to those who cannot see the originals, gives a very good idea of their general character.

LITERARY NOTE.

We are glad to see that Mr. William Kirby's famous tale of old Quebec, the Chien d'Or, has been translated into vigorous idiomatic French by L. P. LeMay, Esq. It appeals especially to the patriotism and sympathies of our French Canadian fellow-subjects, and we hope will have a large sale among them. Its popularity in English is shown by the fact that it has been twice pirated by American publishers and reprinted in various editions. While this may bring the author the name and fame he so well deserves, it defrauds him of that more substantial compensation for his labours which an equitable international copyright law would secure. We understand that Mr. Kirby is working at another Canadian tale; but it is poor encouragement to native authorship that its product should be pounced upon immediately by American pirates without any opportunity for redress or compensation.