

*My Boy Life.* In a succession of True Stories. By JOHN CARROLL, D. D. Pp. 288.

Yet another book from the prolific pen of our dear old friend, Dr. Carroll—and as full of life and interest as any he ever wrote. We once asked the Doctor how he so wonderfully preserved his vivacity. "Bless you, brother," he replied, "it preserves me." And there was a deal of philosophy in this answer. "A merry heart doth good like a medicine"—better than most medicine, we should say—and much pleasanter. If the Doctor will pardon us we will take the liberty of suggesting that a better title would be, "Recollections of Boyhood by an Old Boy," for we know of no one who preserves so fully the glad, guileless happy heart of boyhood as does he. This is a book for boys—both young and grey-headed. Indeed, we think the old boys will enjoy the stories about the early days of Little York even better than the young ones. May the genial writer live long to tell us many more "true stories" like these.

*The Stately Homes of England.* By LEWELLYNN JEWITT, F.S.A., and S. C. Hall, F.S.A. In two series. Large 8vo., pp. 400 and 360, with 380 engravings. Extra gilt. New York: R. Worthington. Toronto: Wm. Briggs. Price \$8.

This is a really sumptuous book on a fascinating subject. Its elegant engravings and text were prepared for the *Art Journal*—probably the most exquisite art publication of the British press. Over thirty of the most important and interesting of "The Stately Homes of England"—its old baronial halls and castles—are delineated with pen and pencil. Their picturesque beauties are set forth by the one, and their heroic traditions and romantic legends are recorded by the other. These grand old structures—"speaking of the past unto present"—are a sort of petrified history of their times. No one has wandered through the storied corridors and halls of Warwick Castle, Hatfield House, Chatsworth, Haddon Hall, Belvoir Castle, or Burleigh House, but would like to possess a

permanent *souvenir* of their beauties and record of their stirring story. Many Old Country folk in Canada will doubtless desire to renew their acquaintance in these charming pages with scenes with which they were familiar in their youth. And many who are native-born will be glad to learn the aspect and story of those historic structures, where English kings and barons have banquetted, and which Cromwell's cannon have battered. Through the enterprise of the American publisher, this handsome book is offered at a greatly reduced price from that at which they were first published. It will form an admirable gift book for the holidays. Through the courtesy of the publishers we are enabled to present a number of the fine engravings from this volume in forthcoming numbers of this Magazine—which, we are confident, however, will only whet the desire to possess this sumptuous work itself.

*Methodist Tune Book.* A collection of Tunes adapted to the Methodist Hymn-Book. Pp. 292. Methodist Book and Publishing Houses, Toronto and Halifax. Price \$1.

This book has been eagerly waited for, and has been already very warmly welcomed. It is the necessary complement of the New Hymn-Book. It will help to make that unrivalled collection of hymns still more familiar to our people. From the labour which has been bestowed, the ability of the Committee, and the able editorship of the Rev. Dr. J. A. Williams, we think that this will be found the best collection of tunes for Methodist worship ever issued in this country, or, indeed, in any other. The noblest compositions of the world have been laid under contribution in preparing this book. Among the great composers whose productions are used, are Handel, Mendelssohn, Mozart, Hadya, Beethoven, Luther, Dr. Mason, Tallis, Dr. Dykes, Dr. S. S. Wesley, Sir J. Elvey, Dr. Burney, Dr. Nares. Arne, Sir W. S. Bennett Novello, Dr. Spohr, Sir A. Sullivan, Dr. Gauntlett, Sir J. Goss, Sir G. Smart, and such musical *connoisseurs* as Prince Albert, Dean Stanley, W. E. Gladstone, and others.