

against him for heresy. Both the mover and seconder of this deliverance expressed themselves as of opinion that while the explanation given by Mr. Knight at last meeting of Presbytery was satisfactory in so far as the repudiation of all heretical doctrine was concerned, Mr. Knight had been too hasty in enunciating views which were so much calculated to be misapprehended and misinterpreted.

DR. WALLACE'S case is approaching a satisfactory conclusion. The Dr. has lodged with the Presbytery a statement to the effect that he disavows holding the opinions alleged to have been expressed by him in regard to the subject of the resurrection, and states that the sermon complained of was written hurriedly and that he regretted if any of his expressions should have led to misapprehension.

LITERATURE.

MEMORIALS OF THE REV. JOHN MACHAR, D. D., LATE MINISTER OF ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, KINGSTON.

We have somewhere seen it stated that the only history of the Church of England extant is to be found in the Lives of the Archbishops of Canterbury, but whether this be entirely true or not, a very little reflection will convince us that all history is largely and it may be said essentially made up of biography. Hence the faithfully recorded life of every Christian minister is in effect a chapter in the history of the Church to which he belonged. In the admirable compilation now before us we have not only a pleasing souvenir of one who was acknowledged by all who knew him to be an earnest ambassador of the Lord Jesus Christ—a diligent and successful minister of the Gospel, but we have also some interesting information regarding his contemporaries, indeed a history, almost, of the Church of Scotland in Canada during a most important period of its existence, from the year 1827 until the time of his death in 1863. And when we take into account how different the circumstances of the country were at the time of Dr. Machar's induction from what they now are, one cannot but admire the faith and patience manifested by him, and others like-minded, who bore the heat and burden of the day, and were instrumental in laying the foundations, of our Church and University.

It would be foreign to our purpose to make extracts from a book which we cordially recommend every member of our Church to purchase and peruse for themselves: for, while it will be especially precious to the members of St. Andrew's Church, Kingston, to whom it is affectionately dedicated by "members of his family," it has an interest for all of us. The work is about equally divided into two parts: the former, comprising the life and Ministry of Dr. Machar, is edited in the best of taste. It is the plain, unvarnished story of "an uneventful life"—whose general character, to use the author's words, "was that of quiet, unobtrusive ministerial usefulness," but which may we not say has left its foot-prints on the sands of time—one from which we may learn the true and only source of a really successful ministerial

career—an early self-consecration to duty, joined to an abiding, humble dependence upon Divine aid.

The twelve Sermons which make up the latter half of the volume are well chosen, and fairly indicate the simple, practical and edifying character of our late friend's pulpit addresses. The mechanical execution of the work fully sustains the reputation which Messrs. James Campbell & Sons of Toronto have already earned for themselves as publishers. It is embellished with a photograph of Dr. Machar and a vignette of the old Cathedral Church and quaint round tower of Brechin in the neighbourhood of which he was born.

THE NATIONAL AND DOMESTIC HISTORY OF ENGLAND. By the Rev. W. H. S. Aubrey. This is the latest, the most attractive, and, for the purpose for which it is designed, the best History of the Realm that has yet appeared. The season will soon again arrive for the customary giving and receiving of Christmas and New Year's gifts. While thousands of dollars are annually spent on baubles, light as air, and on books that have little or nothing to recommend them but their gaudy coverings, heads of families who wish to do their households a real kindness cannot do better than present them with a copy of these beautiful and instructive volumes. They are three in number, got up in the highest style of the printer's art and embellished with upwards of a thousand steel-plate and wood engravings, maps, fac-similes and coloured prints. The general design of the work is admirable. It is rather a compendium of the salient points of British history gathered from the best authors than an original treatise. But it is the more valuable on that account. It is not to be named in comparison with Macaulay's or Froude's, or Hallam's, beside which it is tame and common place, but, for all that, its intrinsic value for every day popular use, exceeds the whole of them put together. It commences with the invasion of Julius Caesar, B.C. 55 and describes in a very readable and intelligible manner not only the growth of the Empire, its civil and foreign wars and great political events, but also, and especially, the social condition of the people, leading us down to the year of grace 1870, noticing—as we at least judge—fairly and impartially all those events in the history of the United Kingdom which any of us belonging to the "common herd" at all events want to know about. Much as we have been pleased with Knight's "Pictorial History of England," to this we give the palm. Not only for literary excellence and artistic finish but for the maturity and soundness of its sentiments in reference to the many great questions discussed. This introductory sentence of the author has the right ring about it: "I have honestly endeavoured to trace the development of the wonderful and illustrious English people to whom it is my pride and honour to belong, and it has been my aim and ambition to show how the free England of the nineteenth century has attained to her exalted and responsible position." The price of this work, sent free either by mail or express, is \$26. It may be ordered through Mr. James Thompson, 210 St. James street, Montreal.