

on the important subject which he treats. This arduous labour is completed with Dr. Hodgins' characteristic accuracy and thoroughness. He goes back to the very beginnings of our colonial history, and gives personal sketches of the early governors and other public men. He recounts the modest beginnings of our educational system and its gradual development.

A conspicuous figure in this period is the Rev. Dr. Strachan, whose energy in connection with the education in his day, and especially with the establishment of King's College are faithfully chronicled. Incidentally light is thrown upon early grammar and common schools, and allusion is made to Sunday-schools in Kingston in 1817, and to the founding of Upper Canada College. The companion volume treating the subsequent development of education in Ontario, the founding of Victoria, Queen's and Trinity Universities, and to the administration of that greatest of Canadians, Dr. Egerton Ryerson, promises to be of no less interest than this volume.

The Dominion of Canada. By KARL BAEDERER. Leipsic: Karl Baedeker. Toronto: William Briggs. Price, \$1.25.

It is a distinct honour to Canada that the editor of the best guide-books in the world should make our broad Dominion the subject of one of his thorough, exhaustive, and up-to-date books of travel. We have in our possession over a dozen of Baedeker's guide-books, and consider them simply indispensable for an intelligent acquaintance with any country which they treat. This book is a model of concentration. In the 316 pages which it contains we have a brief outline of the Constitution of Canada, by Dr. Bourinot, a geographical and geological sketch, by Dr. G. M. Dawson, a paper on its Sports and Pastimes, Canadian Bibliography and chief dates in Canadian History. It describes the means of travel through the high-ways and byways of each province, the island of Newfoundland, and an extension of travel to Sitka, in

Alaska. It gives lists and rates of hotels and boarding houses, rates of travel by rail, steamer, ferry, tram-car; and omnibus, cab and carriage tariff, the chief points of interest—everything, in fact, that travellers need to know. It has ten clearly drawn maps printed in colours, and seven plans of the chief cities of Canada. The only error that we have noted is crediting Mount St. Elias, the highest mountain in North America—18,200 high—to the possession of the United States; whereas the recent survey just completed places it in Canada. Even Canadians who think they know their own country well may learn much that is new to them from this volume.

From Blomidon to Smoky, and Other Papers. By FRANK BOLLES. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Company. Toronto: William Briggs. Price, \$1.25.

The picturesque Province of Nova Scotia has a rare fascination for American tourists. Longfellow and Charles Dudley Warner have made Grand Prè and Baddeck classic. Mr. Bell and Mr. Kenner—of telephone and Siberian fame—have charming homes in Cape Breton. A swarm of American summer visitors haunts the quaint old towns and picturesque and bold bays and headlands of the rocky peninsula. Few of them, however, receive such vivid impressions and have such graceful mode of expression as the author of, "From Blomidon to Smoky." He grows enthusiastic over the magnificent outlook from the Look-Off over Grand Prè. "I know of no other hill or mountain which gives the reward that this one does in proportion to the effort required to climb it." The magnificent Gasperaux Valley, the broad Basin of Minas, with its poetic associations, and the majestic outlook from Cape Smoky on the far-east coast of Cape Breton are graphically depicted. Another chapter describes the home of the Glooscap, the mythological Hiawatha of Nova Scotia.