

is if Australia and Canada belong to the same root.

"A History of Canada," by Charles G. D. Roberts. Price \$2. Boston, Lamson, Wolfe & Co. Toronto, G. N. Morang, 1897.

It is with much satisfaction we observe the demand there is for information regarding Canada on every hand, and the very creditable efforts made by Canadian writers to meet this constantly increasing demand. Heretofore, these efforts have been confined to writing histories designed for use in our public schools; histories necessarily brief, and statements of facts, compressed. Of this class, many have been written in the last forty years, and are being used in our schools with good effect. The book under review is one which was produced in the competition for a school history of the Dominion of Canada; and, naturally, it will be compared with the work which was selected as the best for the purpose. We will not enter into that comparison, tempting as it may be. Mr. Roberts is well known as one of the best Canadian poets, and also as a prose writer of high merit. Occasionally, in his history, we have noted a poetic word, used for sober, historic narrative, and, in proper times and places, he has given us specimens of poetic prose which are most welcome. Mr. Roberts' description of the fierce contest between Britain and France for America is well done; also the story of the death of Wolfe and Montcalm.

We welcome the handsome volume. Our readers will find here a compendious history of Canada, much more than a mere outline and interesting. Mr. Roberts will do well to remember that we and the islands in the Indies are the British Empire in the West.

"The First Book of Physical Geography," by R. S. Farr, has just been published by the Macmillan Company. The purpose of the author was not only to cover the entire ground in an elementary way, but to make every topic thoroughly clear, assuming only the most well-known principles of other sciences. This purpose has been fully carried out.

The book is written in a clear and pleasing style which must awaken interest, and kindle a desire for still further knowledge of the subject. Many excellent photographs and carefully executed diagrams and charts greatly add to its value. It is undoubtedly a valuable addition to the works on Physical Geography.

"Common Errors in Speaking and Writing, and How to Avoid Them," by H. I. Strang, B.A., Principal Goderich C.I. Toronto, The Copp, Clark Co.

This proves to be a revised edition of what was before known as *Strang's Exercises in False Syntax*. The author has carefully revised the exercises, omitting, rearranging, and adding where he thought he could improve them, and has prefixed to each exercise or new matter a series of practical cautions and suggestions. In this prefatory matter he has embodied the results of a long, and somewhat special experience in dealing with the subject of "Bad English," and we believe that the great majority of teachers of English, and especially the younger ones, and also private students, will find the book very helpful to them in showing them what mistakes they need specially to guard against. The book has been improved typographically also we think, and does credit to the publishers.