

indebted to the Irish Methodist Church for a vast number of both preachers and members. Dr. Guard's ministerial life was spent in three continents—in Europe, Africa and America, and in all three he delighted by his chaste Christian eloquence large assembles of people. In America, especially in the great centres of intelligence from the Atlantic to the Pacific, his brilliant talents were recognized. Many in Canada who remember the thin, meagre man, who beginning with nervous hesitation rose into a power of eloquence seldom equalled, will welcome this reproduction in print of the words which so thrilled their hearts when spoken. They have the same clear-cut diction and classic purity of style. The range of these lectures is very wide. Some of the most striking are Wesley and his Helpers, Savonarola, St. Patrick, Emerson, Darwin, and Longfellow, and one given under the auspices of the Boston Monday Lectureship on the Activities of the Age and the Bible.

Dr. Talmage's memorial sermon is the generous tribute of a man of consecrated genius to a kindred spirit.

*Old Times in the Colonies.* By CHAS. CARLETON COFFIN. 8vo., pp. 460, illustrated. New York: Harper Brothers. Toronto: Wm. Briggs. Price, \$3.50.

The present volume is of no less interest to Canadian than to American readers. Indeed a great part of it is devoted to the early history of our own country, and in the founding of Empire in Virginia, in New England, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, the Carolinas, and Georgia, every British subject has a deep and abiding interest. Of course Parkman's eight stately volumes contain the best and fullest account of the old French regime in Canada: but next to them we know nothing more attractive and interesting than this book, and we have personally read and written much on this subject. Mr. Coffin's narrative is not a dry record of bare facts. He shows the causes, the meaning, the rela-

tionship of those facts. He traces the beginnings of history on this continent to their fountain heads in the Old World. The great theme of the book—the thought that gives unity to its many stirring scenes and episodes—is the great conflict between England and France for the possession of the continent—a conflict between two races, two languages, two religions, and two distinct civilizations—a conflict which lasted for two long centuries, but which was ended in fifteen decisive minutes on the Plains of Abraham.

The book is sumptuously illustrated by maps, portraits and engravings from the unrivalled resources of the great house by which it is issued, including many scenes in Canada and Old and New England—nearly three hundred in all.

*A Book About Roses: How to Grow and Show Them.* By S. REYNOLDS HOLE. Pp. 324. New York: William S. Gottsberger. Toronto: Willing & Williamson. Price, \$1.

Who loves not the rose, the queen of flowers, the emblem of England? For beauty, for fragrance, for sweet suggestiveness none will with it compare. If one would know all about roses, "how to grow them and show them," let him procure this book, the merit of which is shown by the fact that it has reached a seventh edition. The author is an enthusiast and writes of his roses as a lover of his mistress. One cannot read many pages without catching his enthusiasm. The moral ministry of roses is not the least of their virtues: "I'll tell you how I managed to buy 'em" said a working man, "by keeping away from beer-shops." That such is the frequent effect of a love of roses is shown by the flower shows and prizes for the poor inaugurated by the good Earl of Shaftesbury. They are often like a glimpse of Eden amid the squalid homes of the poor or by the beds of the sick. The author gives lists of new and selected roses, and the book is free from any taint of shop, for he has none to sell himself.