

Editorial.

A PORTABLE LIBRARY.

There is much truth in the adage "He who works without tools is twice tired," and we understand its force when applied to the artisan. Its application, however, is not to be confined merely to industrial arts, for it is equally true of every phase of human activity. The student even, whether a beginner or an advanced scholar, knows that unless he provides himself with suitable "tools," which in his case are books, he cannot possibly do the best work with comfort or success. In other words the student's library is his tool-chest. This must be kept in good order and well furnished with the best and most useful books for his particular branch of study. The average rural pastor, and even many whose fields are more compact, thus affording them more opportunity for study, find it impossible to devote more than a small portion of their time to reading. To accomplish anything, therefore, it is necessary to make a judicious selection from the multitude of publications now on the market, for Bolingbroke's famous saying in regard to histories is true of books in general to-day—"Some are to be read, some are to be studied, and some may be neglected entirely, not only without detriment but with advantage." In this the minister is aided by the careful reviews in the various magazines, such as the interesting "Talks About Books" with which our readers are familiar; but after all, when this selection is settled there remains a greater difficulty, especially to those whose financial resources are somewhat limited. For many of those with meagre means the purchase of costly books is an impossibility, and those who have good books do not care to lend, nor is the position of the borrower an enviable one. So not a few struggle away without up-to-date tools "twice tired," and perhaps unsuccessful, as they endeavor to keep abreast with the times. Many plans have been devised to bring within