

Literary Notices.

"ABUNDANT GRACE," by the author of "Grace and Truth," pp. 232, Toronto, S. R. Briggs, the Willard Tract Depository. Price \$1.00. It is a sufficient testimonial in favor of this neatly got up volume that the author of the "Selected Addresses" it contains was the late Dr. W. P. Mackay, of Hull, whose praise is in all the churches, and whose name is familiar as a household word. Sad that we have to write "the late." His was a sudden translation, but he was ready, "looking for the blessed Hope." Now Hope has risen to "full fruition." It seems but a short time since he was in Halifax with his excellent wife, "a true yokefellow." Who that was privileged to hear him that memorable Communion Friday evening in Port Massey, and at Pinehill in his unique talk to the students, can ever forget his sturdy build, his genial, glowing expressive countenance, and his fresh, forcible, burning words. It is one of the mysteries of Providence that a treacherous hole in the wharf at Portree, a few weeks ago, should have been the occasion of snatching away, from his field of increasing usefulness, and in mid-time of his days, this gifted worker. This book is what one would expect from such a man, and is suitably introduced by an appreciative preface from the pen of Dr. Brookes, of St. Louis; racy reminiscences, by Miss Annie Macpherson, and a brief biographical sketch. R. F. B.

"THE PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW" begins its seventh year with the January number. It is now published by Charles Scribner & Sons, under the editorial management of the Presbyterian Review Association. Among Presbyterian Theological magazines it stands first, and alone.

Its staff of editors and writers are some of the ablest men in the Presbyterian Church, in Britain and America; Dr. Flint, Calderwood, and Blakie, representing the three Presbyterian Churches in Scotland; Dr. Crosskerry, the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, and Dr. Caven, the Presbyterian Church in Canada; Dr. Briggs and Patton with several others, the Presbyterian Church in the United States. The January number contains articles as follows: *The Ministry*, by Prof. F. Witherow, D.D., giving very clearly, simple, and forcibly, the teaching of the New Testament with regard to the office of the Ministry. Then follows, II. *John Todd of Virginia*, and *John Todd of Indiana*, a Home Missionary sketch. III. *The Missionary Problem in Japan*, by Prof. Geo. W.

Knox, of the Union Theological School of Tokyo, Japan. The Progress of Christianity in Japan is one of the most wonderful triumphs of the Gospel in modern times. Thirteen years ago there was but one church formed, now there are one hundred and twenty. It may almost be called a Christian nation. About a dozen different societies are laboring there, and the question is, should these remain as Mission Churches connected with the Societies that founded them, or be united as the Christian Church of Japan. This question is one of the interesting problems in connection with F. M. work, and is ably discussed by Prof. Knox. IV. *The Revised Version of the Bible as a whole*, by Principal Caven of Toronto. All who have listened to the calm, clear words of Dr. Caven in our General Assembly, will not be disappointed in his masterly discussion of this subject. V. *The Ordination to the Christian Ministry*, by Rev. Henry J. Van Dyke, Senr., presents, from a different standpoint, the question of the first article. VI. *The Metaphysics of Oughtness*, by Prof. F. L. Patton, D. D., for those who have a liking for Philosophy. Then follow *Critical Notes*, *Editorial Notes* and *Reviews of Recent Theological Literature*. We cannot too strongly recommend this Quarterly, not only to ministers but to the membership of our Church. True, as in some of Paul's Epistles, there are some things "hard to be understood," but most of the articles are by the most able, practical, men of the Presbyterian Church, on live religious questions of the day. Price \$3.00 per annum.

THE PASTOR'S DIARY AND CLERICAL RECORD, for 1886, by Rev. Louis H. Jordan, B. D., Montreal, is a book that is valuable not for what is in it but for what it has room for. To those who have used it as a pocket companion it needs no recommendation. Those who have not, will best learn its value by giving it a trial. Part of it is a diary, ruled and dated for the record of more prominent events. Then follows a congregational directory, which is of great value, more especially in towns and villages, for keeping a record of visitation. Then a record for the list of sick, inquirers, candidates for Communion, sermons preached, texts for sermons, baptisms, admissions to the Lord's Table, marriages, burials, statistics, &c. Having tried it for last year we have found it a great help in the method and consequent ease and effectiveness which it unobtrusively and almost unconsciously introduces into the work. Sold by Funk & Wagnall, 10 & 12 Dey St., New York, and Drysdale & Co., Montreal. Price \$1.00