

intellectual vigor, of wide reading and of unusual frankness and cordiality. Not seldom was his merry laugh heard in the corridors of Queen Street Hall in those days. Many, perhaps a majority of the students, who that year entered the theological classes have either departed this life, or have ceased to be actively employed in the service of the Church. A few remain in more or less active service. These occur to me as I write: Dr. Kennedy, of Edinburgh, the senior clerk of the United Presbyterian Church; Dr. Drummond, of Glasgow, one of the delegates to the Presbyterian Council in Toronto; W. Parlance, of Burntisland, modest and retiring, but a minister of high character and of wide knowledge; and Dr. Morrison, of London, preacher and poet, Ayrshire born, like Dr. Taylor, and his life-long friend.

Mt. Taylor completed his theological course in the autumn of 1852 and received licensure from the Presbytery of Kilmarnock in December of that year. He very soon received a call to a prominent pulpit in the South of Scotland, that of Sanquhar, at that time vacant by the recent transference of Dr. Croom to Edinburgh. This call was, however, declined by the youthful probationer, the reason for his declination being stated with characteristic frankness. Another call received about the same time or soon afterwards to a much less important charge, Kilmaurs, in the immediate neighbourhood of his native place, was accepted. Here he was ordained to the ministry in June, 1853, and here he continued to labor with much acceptance for two years. Towards the close of this period, a call was addressed to him from a newly formed congregation in Bootle, a suburb of Liverpool. As pastor of this young and at first feeble Church, he laid the foundation of his fame as a preacher, and achieved his first marked success in the line of work in which he was afterwards to become so eminent. The membership of thirty or forty increased under his powerful preaching, and wise and gracious interest in his flock, until it numbered six hundred; the attachment of the people being of the most devoted kind. It was during this period that Dr. Taylor began his course as an author giving to the public, among other productions, a valuable work entitled, "The Miracles Helps to Faith." He was at the same time a public-spirited citizen and from his student days onward an earnest advocate of the temperance cause. It was while occupying this field that one of the closest and most cherished friendships of his life was formed, that with Dr. Wm. Graham, then minister of Mount Pleasant Church, Liverpool, afterwards Professor in the Presbyterian College, London, a man of singularly bright and sparkling and withal genial and kindly wit.

In 1871 Mr. Taylor was induced by a friend belonging to the Church of the Pilgrims, Brooklyn, N.Y., to accept an invitation to occupy that pulpit for two or three months, while its pastor, Dr. Storrs, with health then broken, was seeking rest and recuperation in Europe. Singularly enough it fell to Dr. Storrs, still in the active ministry in Brooklyn, to give the address—a graceful, affectionate and, indeed, deeply touching tribute to the memory of the deceased—at the funeral of him who, twenty-four years before, had come to his assistance, in the full strength of a vigorous manhood. The impression produced by the vigor, the warmth, the enthusiasm of Dr. Taylor's preaching during his brief occupation of Dr. Storrs' pulpit was such that the Broadway Tabernacle Church, of New York, in some respect the most influential one in the denomination, almost immediately addressed a call to him to become its pastor, with the full concurrence of the Rev. Dr. Joseph P. Thompson, who had been for years in charge of it but was anxious to retire from the ministry. The call, all unexpected as it was, was accepted. Dr. Taylor was installed into the pastorate in New York in April 1872, and for nearly twenty years he continued to maintain in it a ministry of great power—one singularly attractive and helpful not only to the members of that Church, but to others, residents of the city and visitors from all parts, who found their way in great numbers to the Tabernacle. One could not say that Dr. Taylor required to come to America to find appreciation, for his reputation was a great and a growing one, before he left Britain; but one may say that America was either more quick in discovering his eminent abilities as a preacher or more successful in calling them into full exercise than was his native land. Perhaps his is not the only instance of the kind.

These twenty years, or thereabouts, were crowd-

ed with work, preparation for the pulpit, pastoral visitation which was never neglected, contributions to the religious press, publication of books, one volume following another in rapid succession, public work for the Denomination, especially in connection with the effort to secure parsonages for ministers and missionaries on the frontier, courses of lectures to colleges, and other forms of labour too numerous to mention. It was a life, no doubt, of great usefulness and even of rich enjoyment, arising from continuous evidences of good done and affection evoked; but it must have been, at the same time, one of incessant strain, which only a constitution of unusual vigor could have stood so long. At last the illness came nearly three years ago, not without its premonitions, which may be said to have brought his active labours to a close. His mind, indeed, continued to retain its clearness, and his interest in the great religious movements of the age, never flagged. New books were read with as great zest as ever. His withdrawal from the exercise of the ministry was, as it must have been, to one of his character, a great trial; but this, and the successive attacks of illness which made it imperative, and which soon cut off all hopes of return to the pulpit, were borne with a submission, the result of his simple and large faith, so complete and so cheerful that, as one who witnessed it has said, "it was like a benediction to behold it."

The main features of Dr. Taylor's character and preaching are too well known to many of the readers of THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN to make it necessary for me to enter into much detail concerning them. And, in any case, this is not the time, or the present writer is not the person, to attempt an elaborate analysis of either the man or his preaching. I can only speak of him as after long and intimate acquaintance I found him.

He was, to begin with, a man of strong sense as of deep and tender feeling. His mind, naturally vigorous, was enriched with a wide knowledge both of books and of men. It had the added charm of a rich vein of humour and of pathos. He was a careful student of the Word of God, and he possessed a deep and immovable attachment to the great verities of the gospel, as these were understood by the fathers of the Secession Church of Scotland, on whose breast he was reared. He was before all a man of deep and healthful piety, which advancing years only mellowed. And as was the man, so was the preacher, as indeed it must ever very largely be. Dr. Taylor, as a preacher, was at once tender and powerful. His discourses, healthfully objective, dealing with facts and characters more than with mental states and spiritual frames, amply illustrated with material gathered in his wide reading, and set in a frame of gracious human feeling, were both instructive and impressive. They were delivered, as all who have heard him know, with the passionate energy which is so characteristic, or at least used to be, of the best Scottish preaching as distinguished from the calmer or more restrained English style. Such as they were, there is little doubt that they helped to elevate and mould many a life. Moreover the conduct of the devotional part of the service must, we imagine, have been for many as great an attraction as his preaching, powerful and inspiring as the latter was.

Like most men, if not all, who are really great, Dr. Taylor was more quick to discover and more ready to dwell on the excellencies of others than their defects. Many in Toronto will remember his characterization at a social meeting in St. James Square Church, of the five Professors of the United Presbyterian Church, whose lectures we had both attended,—a characterization so appreciative, while discriminating, so affectionate.

He was moreover a warm and steadfast friend, and especially of those who had been the companions of his student days. The chief attraction, indeed, of his yearly visit to Britain seems to have been the opportunity which it afforded him of renewing these friendships.

It is not allowed us to speak of Dr. Taylor's domestic life except to say that in this he was unusually happy. He was married in early life to the sister of a fellow-student who entered college in the same year with himself but who was early called away. Mrs. Taylor and a family of five sons and two daughters survive him.

In Dr. Taylor's death, a useful life, a life which had won much love, has closed here, but, as the gospel of Jesus Christ permits us to believe, it has not ended, it has but begun in some higher, to us unknown form.

Winnipeg, Feb. 20th, 1895.

Books and Magazines.

THE PADDOCK LECTURES FOR 1894. By C. W. E. Body, M.A., D.C.L. Longman, Green & Co., New York, U.S.

"The Permanent Value of the Book of Genesis as an Integral Part of the Christian Revelation" is the subject discussed in this volume. The literature of the book of Genesis is already almost alarmingly voluminous. Owing to the author of this fresh contribution to it being so well known and highly esteemed in this city, it will be read with interest by many. We can only give such an idea of the work as is suggested by the titles of the lectures which are as follows: "The Critical Problem in General"; "The Literary Analysis Critically and Historically Considered"; "The Creation and Paradise"; "The Fall and its Immediate Results"; "The Deluge and the Patriarchs." In the preface the writer states his object to be "to plead for a re-examination from certain fundamental standpoints, to which adequate attention does not seem to have been given of modern critical hypotheses, which are clamouring for immediate acceptance." This is the position which we believe the great body of sound theologians would at the present time recommend to be taken.

THE LIBERATION OF ITALY. By Countess Evelyn Martminengo Cesaresco. Charles Scribners' Sons, New York. Rev. Wm. Briggs, Toronto.

The story of the liberation and unification of Italy is full of romance. It was not won without some failures and many disappointments. In connection with it the names of Garibaldi, Count Cavour, King Victor Emmanuel and Mazzini, with some others, have been immortalized. As far back as the days of Dante it was a dream, but only at a time well within the memory of men still living was it realized. The story, with the events which led up to it, and the names and deeds of the men who took a large part in it, is told by the Countess Evelyn Martminengo Cesaresco in "The Liberation of Italy." It has been translated into smooth and flowing English, and her narrative carries her readers along with her. Besides having access to many valuable state documents, her interest in her subject, and some special qualifications for her task, above all the labour, while one of love, being at the same, done with judgment and discretion, make this volume both interesting and reliable. The book is embellished by four excellent steel portraits of Garibaldi, Mazzini, King Victor Emmanuel and Count Cavour.

THE MINISTRY OF THE SPIRIT. By A. J. Gordon, D.D., with an Introduction by Rev. F. B. Meyer. (235 pages, 12mo.) Fleming H. Revell Company, Toronto.

This book possesses a sad and hallowed interest from the fact that its well-known and beloved author has so lately passed away to his reward. While those who heard him during his last visit to Toronto may not agree with him in some of his opinions, it was impossible not to feel the spell of his goodness and acknowledge the power of his intellect. His last published work is sure to be widely read. We can only endorse the opinion that, "no man was better qualified than Dr. Gordon for writing on this subject and his work will be eagerly read. His sweetness of spirit brought him in touch with Christians everywhere, and his special qualifications for writing on the office work of the Holy Spirit, assured to them the most thorough treatment of this subject."

OUR BEST MOODS, SOLILOQUIES AND OTHER DISCOURSES. By David Gregg, D.D., E. B. Treat, 5 Cooper Union, New York, U.S.

The writer of the discourses given in this book is the pastor of Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church, Brooklyn, New York. They are given as preached in ordinary course at the urgent request of those who heard them. When this request is made voluntarily and by a goodly number, it is of itself an evidence that they have been found profitable by the hearers. They are written in an incisive style, are practical and suggestive, and will be found helpful by the reader.

In the ranks of the pictorial weeklies *The Illustrated American* deservedly takes a high stand. Aside from reading matter of much excellence, touching upon topics of current interest, as also upon important literary, scientific and social themes, the accompanying pictures, which serve to enhance the value of the subjects discussed, are of exceptional merit. There has just been concluded in its columns a series of articles on "The Seven Deadly Sins of America," various evils of present-day life being handled with much power and discrimination by Mr. Cleveland Moffett. To show the up-to-date character of this publication, it is only necessary to state that the number for last week was devoted to Washington's Birthday—the event uppermost in the minds of residents in the neighboring republic. Its typographical appearance is unexcelled. [Lorillard Spencer, 5 and 7 East Sixteenth Street, New York. Ordinary subscription, \$4 per year. The Edition de Luxe, \$5.]

The Biblical World, for February, continuing "The Old and New Testament Student," after some interesting notes on Israel and Israelitish history and institutions, contains two somewhat lengthy articles on important subjects—the first by Rev. Professor Brown, D.D., of Newton Theological Institute on "The Interpretation of the Old Testament as Affected by Modern Scholarship"; the second is on "The Teaching of Jesus," devoted especially to the method of His teaching, and is by Rev. Prof. Stevens, Ph.D., D.D., of Yale and Divinity School. Comparative Religion Notes contain several testimonies to the value of the Parliament of Religions in connection with the institution of the Barrow's Lectureship as a result of it. Other departments, well-sustained, complete a good number of this periodical. *The Biblical World*: The University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Ill., U.S.