

That motley guild of literature concerning which Carlyle wrote eloquently and often, contains more who write such pestiferous trash. Possibly the scribes who write the garbage that glorifies crime and finds its heroes in prison corridors, are unable to dig, and are ashamed to beg. It can be the only thing of which they are capable of being ashamed. Then there are the wretches that equal them in baseness and degradation, the men who print and publish their writings. To what depths has the noble art of Faust, of Gutenberg, and Caxton degenerated in this nineteenth century.

A grave responsibility rests on parents. It is not enough that they should seek to prevent injurious and corrupting literature from entering their homes. For this in these days there is no excuse. Pure instructive, refining and amusing literature is abundantly and cheaply provided. The exclusion of the bad is not enough, there should be ample provision for the development of a hearty courageous moral nature among the young people of Canada. Their tastes should be so formed that they would instinctively shun the degrading rubbish which many at present so eagerly seek.

## BOOKS AND MAGAZINES.

**TWO DISCOURSES.** By Rev. A. J. Bray. (Montreal: The Herald Publishing Co.) These discourses, in the dialect of Bohemia mainly, are dreary, biting and blighting as the east wind, which enters largely into their composition.

**ELECTRA.** A Belles Lettres Monthly for Young People. Edited by Annie E. Wilson and Isabella M. Leyburn. (Louisville, Kentucky: Isabella M. Leyburn.)—A beautiful steel engraving appears with the November issue, of "Tasso at the Court of Ferrara", and there is the usual variety of interesting short articles. "Electra" deserves a place in every educated home.

**CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL.** (Toronto: W. J. Gage.)—The November number of the "Canada School Journal" in addition to pungent editorials contains Dr. Oldright's admirable paper on School Hygiene, read at the recent meeting of the Ontario Teachers' Association, a number of well-selected articles, and news items interesting to the members of the profession for whom the magazine is especially designed.

**THE LIFE OF MARTIN LUTHER.** By Dr. William Rein, Seminary Director at Eisenbach, translated and edited by Rev. G. F. Behringer, Brooklyn, New York. (New York: Funk & Wagnalls.)—This little work, based upon Kostlin's "Life of Luther," forms No. 101 of the Standard Library, and has been specially prepared and published as a Luther commemoration volume. It is perhaps the best popular Life of the Great Reformer that we have seen.

**FROM GLOOM TO GLADNESS.** By Rev. Joseph S. Van Dyke, A.M. (New York: Funk & Wagnalls.)—The fuller title of this book is, "Illustrations of Life from the Biography of Esther." There are internal indications that the several chapters were originally delivered as sermons. They are not ordinary sermons, however. They are marked by a most entertaining style, a vivid imagination, a strong grasp of facts, a large command of general literature and history; and they are full of practical modern interest.

**CHOICE LITERATURE.** (New York: John B. Alden.)—The November number of this high-class reprint is a veritable "feast of reason." Not only the cream, but much of the *creme de la creme* of the best current writings is reproduced in its pages. All the articles are excellent and of distinguished authorship; but we have only space to specify "Count Rumford," by John Tyndall; "Earth Movements in Java," by Richard A. Proctor; "The Progress of Labour," by Frederic Harrison; "Some Social Characteristics of Australia," by Archibald Forbes, of war-correspondence fame; and "Victor Hugo," by Algernon Charles Swinburne.

**BY-WAYS OF LITERATURE.** By D. H. Wheeler. (New York: Funk & Wagnalls; Toronto: William Briggs.)—One of the merits of the excellent series issued in the Standard Library by Messrs. Funk & Wagnalls is the variety of subjects embraced in these remarkably cheap publications. The present volume by David Hutton Wheeler, contains eleven chapters on various topics of more or less living interest. In a

modest preface the author tells us that the volume derives its unity from his own studies rather than the topics discussed. Most of them, however, have a bearing on philology on which he writes in a pleasing and instructive manner.

**THE PULPIT TREASURY.** J. Sanderson, Managing Editor. (New York: E. B. Treat.)—This recent addition to a special branch of religious literature continues to fulfil its promises. It is and has been from the beginning distinctively evangelical. The best thoughts of many of the best preachers are to be found in its pages. In the present number contributions from the pens of Joseph Cook, Dr. Joseph T. Duryea, Dr. John Hall, Talmage and D. L. Moody, and several other distinguished preachers. Its contents are by no means confined to matters of exclusive interest to the preacher. Sabbath school teachers, the Christian worker, and parents will find the "Pulpit Treasury" very serviceable in promoting their own spiritual advancement, and fitting them for being more serviceable to others.

**THE PARABOLIC TEACHING OF CHRIST.** By Alexander Balmain Bruce. (New York: A. C. Armstrong & Son.)—This is an American edition of Professor Bruce's latest and best work. The subject is a most attractive one. Men eminent for learning and piety have given us the results of their researches and meditations on the parables spoken by the Great Teacher. It would be difficult to supercede Archbishop Trench, and no less difficult to surpass William Arnot on the Parables. The valuable contribution of Professor Bruce, will receive a cordial and extensive welcome. His object has been to unfold in a scholarly, yet genial manner the didactic significance of the parables spoken by our Lord. He distrusts the allegorizing and follows the historical method of exegesis. This constitutes a valuable feature of the work. He groups the parables in three books. The first comprises the Theoretic Parables; the second, the Parables of Grace; and the third, the Parables of Judgment. The work of Professor Bruce is a valuable contribution to New Testament literature.

**PULPIT PRAYERS.** By Eminent Preachers. (New York: A. C. Armstrong & Son.)—In conducting the services of the sanctuary, ministers are sometimes conscious of the need of a more varied mode in the expression of a congregation's devotional feeling. To some extent this explains the desire that exists in some quarters for liturgical forms. This handsome volume "Pulpit Prayers" forms one of The Clerical Library series. It contains one hundred and two prayers of varying length, and embracing a wide range of appropriate topics. Of course no minister with anything like an adequate sense of the sacredness of his office would ever think of adopting the printed prayers in this volume. They can, however, serve an important purpose. They are eminently suggestive and in this way can be profitable and helpful. The names of the eminent preachers whose compositions they are do not appear. There are six groups, each bearing as signature a letter of the Greek alphabet. The largest number are signed α. Most readers will form a shrewd guess as to the original source of those to which this letter is affixed. The get up of the book is most attractive.

**THE ENGLISH ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE.** (London and New York: Macmillan & Co.)—The progress made by American publishers and artists in beautifying popular literature with artistic illustrations has prompted their English rivals to advance in the same direction. This latest English entrant into the list of illustrated magazines shows remarkable enterprise. The November number, the second of this new candidate for popular favour, presents as its frontispiece a fine engraving of R. W. Macbeth's "The Miller's Courtship." The contents of the present number are: "In the Fens," "The Banqueting House and Old Whitehall," by Austin Dobson; "Brass Work at Birmingham," by Bernard H. Becker; "The Little Schoolmaster Mark," a spiritual romance, by J. H. Short-house, author of "John Inglesant"; "Oysters and the Oyster Question," by Professor Huxley; and three chapters of the novel contributed by Charlotte M. Yonge, "The Armourer's Prentices." The illustrations are numerous and of great excellence. It has also the merit of being beautifully printed on superior paper and published so cheaply that it is sure to obtain a very large circulation, to which its merits fairly entitle it.

**THE BIBLE-WORK.** Prepared by J. Glentworth Butler, D.D. Vol. I. (New York: Funk & Wagnall's Toronto: William Briggs.)—Volume I. of Butler's "Bible Work" comprises the four gospels, which are given in the order of the events narrated, so that the entire life of Christ may be read in running order with no repetitions and no omissions. Comments, illustrations, explanations, descriptions, historical facts, etc., in the greatest profusion, accompany the Gospel account. They are gleaned from all sources, exegetical and devotional writings, the researches of scientists, and descriptions by travellers, from pulpit and from commentary; from ancient and from modern literature. All are selected and arranged with the utmost care and with rare judgment, so as not to form a mass of undigested material, but to present a concise, orderly, full, and remarkably suggestive commentary. It has the choicest thoughts of the centuries bearing on the life of Christ. It has the results of the latest research and study. It gives illustrations and views from many of the finest minds the world has ever known. It is accompanied by fifty accurate and well-executed maps and illustrations. It is unsectarian, and presents the fruits of scholarship in language which the unlearned may easily understand. Its importance to clergymen, Bible students and teachers can hardly be over-estimated.

**CONTRARY WINDS AND OTHER SERMONS.** By William M. Taylor, D.D., LL.D. (New York: A. C. Armstrong & Son.)—It was told of Dr. Whewell that he was a modest man. His philosophical and literary contributions were collected and bound, placed on his library shelves and labelled "sermons." When asked by a friend why he followed such a freak he informed him that, as he did not care to have his visitors looking into and commenting on these volumes, he had the misleading label affixed because few people cared to look into a volume of sermons. The popular appreciation for this class of literature has not increased since Professor Whewell's day. But then there are sermons and sermons. Many that are admirable and effective when delivered do not tell so well in print. Others again not only stand that ordeal but become more effective with certain classes of readers. When good sermons are published they find a large circle of readers. When it is announced that a new volume is to appear written by some well-known divine it is sure to obtain an appreciative welcome and a wide circulation. Such a divine is Dr. William M. Taylor. The volume before us is worthy of its author and what is still better worthy of the great subjects on which he discourses. It contains twenty-four sermons on various themes, all of them of the deepest practical spiritual interest. Quiet, earnest, thoughtful, they speak at once to heart and mind. No reader of Dr. Taylor's writing needs to be told that these sermons in their expression possess the charm of literary finish and beauty which is one of his distinguishing peculiarities. This volume will be read with spiritual profit and delight by all who appreciate earnest thoughtful and cultured Christian teaching.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.**—Rev. Dr. Reid has received the following sums for schemes of the Church, viz.: A Friend, Tuckersmith, for Foreign Mission, Formosa, \$5; A Member of Burns Church, Efin, for Foreign Mission, Formosa, \$2; A Friend, Caledon, for Foreign Mission, special for Formosa, \$5, also for Home Mission, \$5; Mrs. Wm. Cochrane, Kingston, Foreign Mission, special for Formosa, \$5; Mrs. D. A. Creaser, of Owen Sound, for Foreign Mission, India, tuition of converted Brahmin for one year \$30; Mrs. Margret Frame, Gay's River, N.S., Foreign Mission, Formosa, \$1; An Unknown Friend, Montreal, Foreign Mission, special for Formosa, \$5; Mrs. Margret Eadie, Sherbrooke, Foreign Mission, special for Formosa, \$5; John Linton, Galt, Foreign Mission, special for Formosa, \$10; A Friend, Toronto, for Foreign Mission, special for Formosa, \$2.

ACCORDING to a report just published, the Jesuit order continues to flourish in spite of persecution. It is divided into five great provinces. Italy and her islands contain 1,558 Jesuit fathers; Germany, Austria-Hungary, Belgium, and the Netherlands counting 2,165. France (including the French possessions) has the highest number, 2,798 Jesuits. Spain and Mexico have 1,933. England and the United States have 1,895 disciples of Loyola. In 1882 there were in all 11,058 Jesuits—priests, professors and coadjutors. In 1870 the Order counted 10,529 members; in 1880, 10,494; and in 1881, 10,798.