

Experience of a Backwoods Preacher.

By REV. JOSEPH H. HILTS. Illustrated. Toronto: The Methodist Book and Publishing House. Price \$1.25.

This is a charming book which should be found in every Methodist family, and no Methodist Sunday-school library is complete without it. The young people of Methodism do not know as much respecting the hardships of the early Methodist preachers as they should. This book will supply the lack. It is full of facts which excite the wonder of the reader, and lead him to read chapter after chapter; and before he is aware he has reached the end, so absorbing is the book.

Mr. Hiltz has done well to write this story. Books to be popular must be both grave and gay, and we can assure our readers that this is the character of Mr. Hiltz' book. The Epworth League young people who wish to become acquainted with early Methodism should study these records, and they will see what a rich heritage has been handed down to them.

How lamentable is the fact that Intemperance has always proved itself to be an insurmountable obstacle in the way of the progress of all that is good. The author gives a little of his experience with this monster, which is very pathetic.

The book contains 17 chapters. The following are some of the titles: "Going to Conference," "Changing Locations," "Camp Meetings," "Floods and Bridges," "Storms and Snowdrifts," "Traces of the Traffic," "Fighting the Dragon," "At Weddings," "Doctors and Doctoring," etc.

"Traces of the Traffic" gives an account of thirty-six persons whom the author knew who were ruined through drink, and yet he could have referred to many more had he been disposed to do so. Well does he ask: "Where does the responsibility rest?" "Can all the blame be thrown on the unfortunates themselves, and on their destroyers, the liquor-sellers? No, not all. The man who

upholds the traffic, by vote or otherwise, will have to bear a share."

We earnestly ask the readers of this magazine to purchase a copy for their own, as well as the author's, benefit.—E. B.

The People's Bible; Discourses upon Holy Scripture. By REV. JOSEPH PARKER, D.D., London. Vol. XVI., Jeremiah XX.—Daniel. Octavo, 456 pp., cloth, \$1.50. New York and Toronto: Funk & Wagnalls Company.

This volume completes the discourses upon the Book of the prophet Jeremiah, begun in the previous volume, and interprets in the same lucid and exhaustive style, the Lamentations of Jeremiah, the Book of the prophet Ezekiel, and the Book of Daniel. The distinguished author takes each salient subject in turn as his text, expounds doctrine, draws the moral from incident, interprets for the ordinary man hard passages, and lightens up the dark places of these mysterious writings.

The books treated are full of the wisdom of righteousness, the poetry of pathos, the power of godlike example, and the enlightenment of divine revelation; and it is not too much to say that Dr. Parker has risen to the occasion, receiving an inspiration from contact with the prophets, and has done his work well.

As in the previous volumes, these homilies are supplemented by a liberal number of articles, entitled, "Handfuls of Purpose," drawn from the texts and topics, and which are especially prepared for the use of teachers. The language of the book is choice, the grasp broad, and the spirit reverential.

Ethical Teachings in Old English Literature. By THEODORE W. HUNT, Ph.D., Litt.D. Cloth, 12mo, 384 pp. \$1.25. New York, London, and Toronto: Funk & Wagnalls Company.

In this discussion of Old English books and authors, Professor Hunt seeks to emphasize, in every legiti-