

The Clerical Library—Platform and Pulpit Aids. 8vo, pp. 280. New York: A. C. Armstrong & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$1.75.

More and more the influence of the Christian platform is widening so as to touch all the manifold interests of the race. The time was when almost the preachers' sole means of access to the public was the pulpit. Now he is expected to mount the rostrum and discuss the varied social, moral, and religious subjects that engage the mind of man. This demands a clear, strong, incisive style of discourse that will arrest attention and carry conviction to the minds of the speaker's audience. It is to furnish striking examples of this style of discourse that this volume is prepared. It contains about forty able addresses on social, religious, temperance, missionary and miscellaneous topics by some of the most eminent public speakers of the age. Among those here represented are Punshon, Wm. Arthur, Canon Farrar, R. W. Dale, Newman Hall, Spurgeon, Joseph Parker, Canon Fleming, Principal Rainy, Bishop Ellicot and others. The book meets a felt want, helps of this sort being rare.

Social Studies in England. By Mrs. SARAH K. BOLTON. Pp. 193. Boston: D. Lothrop & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$1.00.

This is a valuable contribution to the solution of the problem of woman's place and woman's work. We are apt to think the English ultra-conservative in this respect. Mrs. Bolton shows that they are extremely progressive. She gives a graphic account of life and work at Girton and Newnham Colleges at Cambridge and of the other women's colleges at Oxford, London, etc. Our young men will have to look to their laurels or their sisters will snatch them away. Young women, we think, are more apt, more docile, more industrious, than young men. They have leisure to keep up liberal studies longer. They don't waste

their energies on cricket, lacrosse or baseball. The smoking and drinking and dissipation of certain college youths seriously handicaps them in this race with Atalanta. The intellectual mothers of the future are the brightest hope of the world.

Mrs. Bolton discusses also the various industries for women in which instruction is given—the art, needlework and cookery schools; nursing, music, painting and horticulture. The picture of the "sweet girl graduate" with cap and gown is very pretty.

LITERARY NOTICES.

The April number of the *Southern Quarterly Review* contains among other good things an elaborate article by the Rev. W. Harrison, of the New Brunswick Conference, on Church and State in England. He disproves the statement that the Church of England is really the Church of the nation. Although it derives much aid from the State, the Nonconforming Churches do far more for evangelizing the nation. Instead of being the bulwark of Protestantism, it is often the half-way house to Romanism. He claims that the interests of both justice and religion demand disestablishment.

We observe in a recent number of the Montreal *Herald* the report of an admirable address delivered at the Convocation of the Faculty of Medicine of McGill University by the Hon. Senator Ferrier, Chancellor of the University. For forty-one years he has been associated with that institution of learning, which reflects lustre not only on the city of Montreal but upon the entire Dominion. We hope that the venerable Senator may long continue to be the faithful chancellor and friend of the University.

The Illustrated Catalogue of the National Academy Exhibition, New York, edited by Charles M. Kurtz, is this year better than ever. It has 93 illustrations of the principal pictures and many valuable art notes. New York: Cassell & Co. Price 50 cents.