

few whose opinions are entitled to respect will care to question. The general enlightenment resulting from scientific advancement requires a ministry fully conversant with the scientific thought of the age. The answers of the apologists of last century will not meet the postulates of the science of to-day. Sir Daniel desires to see the ministry fully equipped that it may be a felt power in the moral and intellectual as well as the spiritual life of the time. Equally true was his statement that much of the current literature unfriendly in its tone to Christianity is of a very superficial character. While it may not, to any very appreciable extent, influence serious and thoughtful minds, there is no question that many who do their thinking by proxy are injuriously affected by it. He also gave expression to another truth that was not contradictory, but complementary of the main thought he was seeking to enforce. It was simply another illustration of Pope's aphorism,

A little learning is a dangerous thing.

One who has only a vague and general idea of scientific and philosophic systems in vogue, is least of all fitted to enter the polemic arena. The glib smatterer whose vocabulary is stored with learned terminology may occasionally astonish inexperienced hearers, but, to put it mildly, he will fail to convince intelligent doubters, or even command their respect. The humblest in point of scholarship may, however, accomplish a great work by earnestly and faithfully proclaiming the great truths of the Gospel of salvation, while they leave the task of discoursing on the evidences to others whose qualifications are well-founded.

Principal Grant's speech was in many respects noteworthy. His sympathies are with a progressive theology, and though he did not touch to any great extent on its distinctive features, he indicated its trend with a remarkable degree of clearness. The points on which he spoke were the duties that ministers and all other guides of public opinion owed to their country and their age. His illustrations were graphic and telling. He claimed for Christian ministers and for all others the full rights of citizenship, which they were bound to exercise for the good of the country. In the consolidation of Canadian nationality much has yet to be done. There were questions of great difficulty, but these had to be faced and fully and fearlessly discussed. For this courage and faith were requisite, and these ought to be distinguishing characteristics of all true patriots. The age in which we live was one of eager inquiry as well as of great advancement. It was a glorious age, and to take an active part in its issues was a high privilege. In touching on the question of Revision, he vindicated the duty of the Church in the exercise of its inalienable right to revise her Confession of Faith or to formulate a new creed as she might in her wisdom determine. He claimed that from the development of comparative religion, the advancement of science, the growth of historical criticism, we had advanced far beyond the standing ground of the Westminster Assembly of divines, and we should construct a Confession that would express the beliefs of the modern Church. This he thought would tend to harmonize different bodies of Christians and prepare the way for the advent of a national Canadian Church.

### THE INDUSTRIAL PROBLEM.

SOCIAL questions of vital interest to the welfare of the community are pressing themselves on the attention of all thoughtful men. The industrial problems of the present age claim consideration, and are pressing with more or less urgency for solution. They appeal to every phase of existing thought, and each school is endeavouring to formulate an answer that is fondly expected to be helpful in bringing about an adjustment that may harmonize conflicting claims. Between capital and labour there is not in the nature of the case an irreconcilable antagonism, however much certain elements may desire to widen the breach between these indispensable factors of modern industrial life. Extreme and radically opposite opinions have their partisans, but neither can afford a permanent solution. Atheistic socialism may formulate its theories, and absolute subordination of labour to capital may find adherents, but neither can on its respective lines suggest a permanent solution that can be loyally accepted in any rightly constituted social state. Nor can anything satisfactory come from the indefinite struggles of employers and employees; the alternate ascendancy of either only leads to the perpetuation of the conflict that remains indecisive. Many see a way out of existing difficulties in the

establishment of a system of arbitration that if invoked will determine for the time being existing disputes.

Resort to force has proved a failure, as it inevitably must. Decisions arrived at by such means are seldom based either on reason or justice. At best they are only fortuitous, success or failure depending only on circumstances. If the conditions are favourable to workmen for the time being they score a triumph, but as soon as circumstances are changed the temporary success is ended. For years this alternation has gone on, without apparently bringing nearer anything approaching more harmonious relations between capital and labour. Cessation in the conflict has at least been only an armed truce. Of this unsettled condition of industrial affairs all parties are beginning to weary. Strikes and lock-outs are about equally discredited. In both there is a certain element of barbarism repugnant to the intelligence of the age in which we live. Possibly the next stage of the industrial conflict will be that of arbitration, but judging from present appearances the parties more immediately interested in the contest are not yet prepared for it. Optional arbitration is an obvious failure. If one party is prepared to submit to such a mode of settlement, the other almost invariably declines. It looks as if the side that expects victory were determined to push matters to an extreme. It is possible surely to advance beyond the strike and the lockout stage with all the inevitable misery and rancour they entail, and obtain a sufficiently impartial method of arbitration that will conserve the mutual rights of capital and labour without the consequences that now attend the incidents so common in industrial warfare.

One of the hopeful signs of the times is that earnest thinkers are addressing themselves to the consideration of these problems now pressing for solution. A most valuable series of Present-Day Papers, by men eminently qualified for the task they undertake, are now appearing in the *Century*. While it is well to hear both sides, to learn what the capitalist and what the workman have to say in favour of their respective claims, it is of equal, if not greater, importance to ascertain what impartial men of large experience think of the various phases of the industrial problems now demanding attention. The paper in the current number of the *Century* is one of great value. It is very comprehensive and is exceptionally moderate in tone, without the slightest taint of partizanship. It is not the production of one writer. Those responsible for it are, from character and position, entitled to a high measure of respect; one is Seth Law, who, as mayor of Brooklyn, earned an excellent reputation for probity and executive ability, the other is Professor Richard T. Ely, whose fame as a just thinker is widely recognized. That the paper is one of wide comprehension will be seen from the following postulate: "The labour problem is only a fractional part of the entire problem of industrial society, and the entire problem of industrial society is only one part of the whole social problem, which includes art, religion, literature, and the various departments of social life." After an introductory reference to the present industrial conditions, the evils incident to it are considered. They are child labour, the labour of women in industrial establishments, the dwellings of the urban labouring classes, Sunday work, night work, overwork, excessive mortality of working people, especially children. Then the evils that spring from immigration, the division of labour, corporations and trusts, accidents and the moral evils directly chargeable to modern industrial conditions. Among the remedies suggested are more active efforts on the part of the Church to establish a legitimate authority over the minds and wills of men. To do this the Church must show the love and faith of early Christianity—light for all and love for all from the ministers of the Gospel will alone re-establish that authority which makes the Church what it should be, a healthy, life-giving member of civilization." It is urged that among remedial measures the life and happiness of the family must be maintained. There must also be requisite legislation, and facilities for the exercise of thrift. While the paper is hopeful in tone it is neither ideally optimistic nor visionary. What it advocates may not be immediately realized, but surely all who pray and long for God's reign of righteousness on the earth will seek its practical accomplishment. The human brotherhood can surely be better employed than ranging themselves into hostile camps and composing mutually destructive armies.

THE Rev. G. Adam Smith's second volume on Isaiah, which is looked for with so much interest, is announced.

## Books and Magazines.

ISAIAH AND THE HIGHER CRITICS. By Rev. R. M. Patterson, D.D., LL.D. (Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication; Toronto: N. T. Wilson.)—This little tractate, prepared originally for the Philadelphia Ministerial Association, has been published by urgent request. It is a terse and clear critique, in popular form of Professor Driver's, "Isaiah: His Life and Times, and the Writings which bear His Name."

FOUR SONGS OF LIFE: Two Voices of Faith and Two of Doubt. By Matthew Arnold, John Greenleaf Whittier, William Ernest Henley, Alfred Lord Tennyson. (New York: Anson D. F. Randolph & Co.)—In neat pamphlet form on fine paper are here reprinted "Dover Head," by Matthew Arnold; "Burning Drift-Wood," by John Greenleaf Whittier; "Out of the Night that Covers Me," by William Ernest Henley, and that latest of Tennysonian gems, "Crossing the Bar."

ON THE REVISION OF THE CONFESSION OF FAITH. By Benjamin B. Warfield. (New York: Anson D. F. Randolph & Co.)—Whatever may be the ultimate decision of the question now agitating the Presbyterian Churches in Europe and America, concerning creed revision, its discussion has already done much good. It has evolved a literature that is possessed of more than ephemeral value. It is a mistake to suppose that no able and scholarly man can be in opposition to the Revision movement. On this question, no more than on any other, is all the enlightenment ranged on the one side and all the obstinate stupidity on the other. If any one doubts that a good case can be made out against Revision he ought to get this paper-covered pamphlet containing the collected papers recently written by Professor Warfield, and he will be surprised at the clear and logical presentation the doctor is able to make.

THE CENTURY. (New York: The Century Co.)—High as is its standard of excellence, seldom indeed does a number fall below expectation; that for April far exceeds it. It is an unusually brilliant issue. The five illustrations in the series of "The Old Italian Masters" are of rare excellence. An engraving of a "Madonna and Child," by Giovanni Bellini, forms a most attractive frontispiece. There is a short paper on this great artist and several specimens of his marvellous work. Joseph Jefferson continues his well-written "Autobiography." E. J. Glave, who from his connection with Stanley is well qualified for the task, writes on "The Slave-Trade in the Congo Basin." John La Forge continues his artistic letters from Japan. "The Serpent Mound of Ohio," by F. W. Putnam will interest readers with antiquarian sympathies. George Kennan tells, as he only can tell, the story of "The Latest Siberian Tragedy." Amelia Barr's serial progresses in interest as the story advances. There are several attractive short stories, a galaxy of poets. Among them the Canadian, Charles G. D. Roberts, contributes to the number.

THE HOMILETIC REVIEW. (New York: Funk & Wagnalls; Toronto: William Briggs.)—The ability, freshness and variety which has so long characterized this excellent monthly is emphasized in this number. The Liturgical question is ably discussed by Dr. Wither-spoon, of Louisville, Ky. Professor Pattison, of Rochester Seminary, gives a masterly paper on, "The Relation of Preaching to Christian Work and Worship." "The Law of Love in Business," by Rev. J. C. Allen, is crisp, wise and comprehensive. Prof. Schodde writes with his usual clearness and force on, "Protestant Church Problems in Germany." "Intercollegiate Athletics" receives a severe and timely handling by Rev. A. McElroy Wylie. Dr. Kennard gives a second and final paper on, "The Cultivation of Psychic Energy," which every preacher and public speaker should read and ponder. The sermons this month, eight in all, are by eminent preachers. That by Dr. Eugene Bersier is a powerful one on "Remember," and his recent death will add unusual interest to the reading. The Exegetical, the European, the English and the Editorial Departments are all well filled with matter of varied interest and instruction. The number as a whole is fully up to the *Review's* high standard.

THE TREASURY FOR PASTOR AND PEOPLE. (New York: E. B. Treat.)—The April number is unusually rich in sermons, articles on popular subjects, helps in pastoral work, and suggestions for Sabbath school teachers. The discourse by President McKnight is one of great power. His portrait is also given, with an admirable sketch of his life and views of Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg. Sermons are also furnished by Spurgeon, Vaughan, Maclaren and Professor Taylor—all leading minds of the English pulpit. We would call special attention to the fourth article of the series on "Living Issues Discussed by College Presidents." The subject, "Law and Persuasion," by W. M. Blackburn, D.D., of Pierre University, is handled with great clearness and force. A second article worthy of high commendation is on "Christ's Testimony of His Divinity in the Gospel of John," by the Rev. Alexander Anderson, Belfast, Ireland. Light on the Sabbath school lessons is given by Dr. Moment; while "Light on the Bible Texts" shines through the pen of Dr. Tristram. The Sabbath question is discussed by Dr. MacArthur. The Mission Field receives attention from Dr. Hiden, and the Prayer Meeting is by the Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler.

THE MISSIONARY REVIEW OF THE WORLD. (New York: Funk & Wagnalls; Toronto: William Briggs.)—The number for April greets us with a rich and varied table of contents. "The Christian Dawn in Korea" is a graphic sketch of that country as the rays of Christianity fell upon it. Mrs. Armstrong's description of "Life Among the Karens in Burmah," as she saw and experienced it, is intensely vivid and interesting. Dr. Pierson's second letter, descriptive of his work abroad, is replete with interest. Rev. Mr. Leonard's brief paper on Utah ("Babylon is Falling") ought to thrill every heart with joy. Dr. Happer, of the Christian College, Canton, shows that there are still vast unoccupied territories besides Tibet waiting for the missionary. Dr. Ellinwood excels even himself in this month's article, "Missionary Churches," and in his monthly concert department. Mr. Starbuck's translations from foreign missionary periodicals are a unique and highly valuable feature. "The Missionary Intelligence" is of unusual interest, and so is the "Correspondence." The International section contains, among other papers, a valuable one on Japan, by Rev. H. Loomis, of Yokohama. The Editorial Notes are full and varied, and the Monthly Bulletin gives the latest news from the entire field of missions.