

The Miracles of Missions; or, Modern Miracles in the History of Missionary Enterprise. By ARTHUR T. PIERSON. New York, London and Toronto: Funk & Wagnalls. Methodist Book Rooms: Toronto, Montreal and Halifax. Price, cloth \$1.00, paper 35c.

Dr. Pierson has won world-wide fame as one of the most active and energetic of living missionary advocates. He has edited with conspicuous ability the *Missionary Review*, and since Mr. Spurgeon's illness has been supplying in the London tabernacle. In the present volume he collects a number of charming studies of missionary heroes and martyrs. He gives twelve studies of missionary heroes in different parts of the world—stories of as remarkable adventure and noble achievement as were ever recorded. We have been so impressed with the value of this book that we have sent it to one of the most accomplished and active members of the Woman's Missionary Society of our Church for a fuller review, and for citation of some of the stirring facts which it sets forth.

The Pastor's Ready Reference Record of Sunday Services for Fifty Years. By REV. WM. D. GRANT. Large quarto, over 100 pp. Cloth. \$1.50. New York, London, and Toronto: Funk & Wagnalls Company.

The matter of keeping a ready reference record of Sunday services has proven, though a comparatively simple subject, a troublesome one to satisfactorily provide for. Hitherto no really practical and valuable plan has been presented to the large army of pastors needing one, and the proverbial "long-felt want" has been the result. Why? Simply because the right idea has been lacking in those who have attempted to fill it. The one great desideratum to an inventor in his study and progress in his pursuit of success is to avoid complications, superabundance of factors or of parts, and to obtain simplicity, practicability, usefulness, merit, and value. As a rule, however, these features are the

most difficult to attain, and generally come only at the last, after a considerable expenditure of time and money in pulling down and remodeling; each time coming nearer to that practical simplicity which marks the genius of all the most valuable of modern inventions.

The Oldest Drama in the World: The Book of Job Arranged in Dramatic Form, with Elucidations. By the REV. ARTHUR WALLS. New York: Hunt & Eaton. Toronto: William Briggs. Price 60c.

It is said that Carlyle was once asked to conduct worship in a Scottish family, and that he read the whole book of Job through at a sitting. It is only by reading it as a whole, as we did one Sunday morning, that one gets an adequate conception of its dramatic force and unity. Our author has adopted the bold plan of presenting this volume in a series of acts and scenes in which the interlocutors in the book have their entrances and exits, their soliloquies and their dialogues and trialogues in the manner of a Shakespearian drama. We cannot say that we altogether like the experiment, although its novelty may quicken interest, and its careful study will doubtless throw considerable light upon obscure passages in this oldest drama in the world. The book has a number of interesting illustrations.

LITERARY NOTE.

The Critical Review of Theological and Philosophical Literature, edited by S. D. F. SALMOND, D.D., published by T. & T. Clark, Edinburgh, and Presbyterian News Co., Toronto, enters upon its second year with an admirable number of 112 pages, well printed, for 50 cents. There are articles by Principal Fairbairn, Professors Whitehouse, Kyle, Davidson, Milligan, McAllister, Marcus Dods, G. G. Findlay, Rev. James Stalker, Professors Stuart, Gibb, Everach and others, with copious book notices—the cheapest and one of the most scholarly reviews for preachers that we know.