

The Best Reading. Hints on the Selection of Books; on the Formation of Libraries, Public and Private; on Courses of Reading, etc., with a Classified Bibliography for easy reference. By FREDERIC BEECHER PERKINS. Fourth ed. pp. 343. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. Price \$1.75.

The same. Second series. 1876-1882. Pp. 119.

These books will be of great value, indeed, we judge, will be almost indispensable, to the book buyer and student. They are a classified Bibliography, giving a list of about 15,000 of the best books in every department of literature—except technical books, and a few special classes. The size and price are also given, and a partial classification of merit. In fiction, for instance, authors are marked *a*, *b*, and *c*, and their books are further marked *, and **, the latter being the cream of their writing. Under the head of Fine Arts we have ten pages of books, besides numerous cross references in biography, etc. On the word Bible there are three pages of books, and on England four pages. As a guide for students to books on the subjects they may be studying, we do not know anything to compare with these volumes. There are also appended selected lists in French, German, Spanish, and Italian literature; suggestions for courses of reading; hints on book clubs, etc.

Marianella. By B. PEREZ GALDOS. From the Spanish by CLARA BELL. New York: William S. Gottsberger. Toronto: Willing & Williamson. Price \$1.

Mr. Gottsberger has added to his library of foreign classics this touching Spanish idyl. It gives a vivid sketch of Iberian life; of the fidelity and devotion of a humble peasant girl to a blind companion; and of the tragic heartbreak following his restoration to sight, and involuntary recoil from the homely aspect of his peasant friend. The deep passion and pathos of the Spanish peasant heart are finely portrayed.

Soul-Winning—Four Lectures delivered under the auspices of the Theological Union of Victoria University. By the Rev. H. F. BLAND. pp. 132. Methodist Book Rooms, Toronto, Montreal, and Halifax. Price 30 cents.

We wish that every young minister of the Methodist Church of Canada would procure and read this book. It contains more useful suggestions on pastoral life and duty than any work of its size that we know. Mr. Bland has given us the results of the ripe experience of an eminently successful ministerial life. The chapters on Preaching, and on Pastoral Visitation, especially the thoughts on the care for the children of the Church, cannot fail to benefit every careful reader. The book abounds in interesting personal reminiscences of great preachers, and in copious illustrations of much force and beauty. For one thing we were not prepared from our previous acquaintance with the lecturer. We did not suspect him of possessing the fund of humour which gleams and sparkles in these pages. We congratulate the Theological Union on the high excellence of this volume, and hope that under its auspices we may be favoured with others of similar merit.

Count Agenor de Gasparin. By THOMAS BOREL. Translated from the French by Gen. D. D. Howard. Pp. 123. New York: Geo. P. Putnam's Sons. Price \$1.

It is seldom that in one household are combined such moral elevation, and such literary as well as social eminence, as co-existed in the Count and Countess de Gasparin. Great as a statesman, as an author, as a patriot soldier, as a Christian, the study of the life of Agenor de Gasparin is full of instruction and inspiration. So impressed have we been with the importance of the lessons of the admirable life-study, that we shall place it in competent hands for the preparation of a paper for this Magazine.