

from the public, there are whispers favouring the hope that the reunion of the Presbyterian Church of the United States is within sight. Such a consummation is devoutly to be wished.

The accelerated growth of the Presbyterian Church in Canada in numbers, resources, usefulness at home and abroad, afford strong evidences that the divine approval has rested upon it. So smoothly has been the working of the United Church that former differences have practically disappeared, and were there any disposition in any quarter to create schism it would fail to receive the slightest countenance.

Books and Magazines.

THE PEARL OF DAYS. (New York: Wilbur B. Ketcham.)—This excellent monthly is devoted to the maintenance in its integrity of the Christian Sabbath.

DEADTOWN EPISTLES FOR YOUNG MEN.—By Charles H. Yatman, Newark, N. J. Chicago: W. W. Vanarsdale.)—These brief, pithy and pointed epistles are specially addressed to the active and associate members of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the world. They are well worth reading and thinking over.

THE MISSIONARY REVIEW OF THE WORLD. (New York: Funk & Wagnalls, Toronto: William Briggs.)—This is the second number of the new series of this valuable repository of missionary information. It is under the joint editorship of Rev. J. M. Sherwood, of New York, and Rev. Arthur T. Pierson, of Philadelphia.

CANADIAN METHODIST MAGAZINE. (Toronto: William Briggs.)—The February number of this excellent magazine is strong in illustrated descriptive articles. "Picturesque Ireland" is continued. Then there are "Walks about London," "Tourist Notes in the Bahamas and Cuba," and "Our Own Country—The Province of Nova Scotia," by the Editor. There are a number of other papers on questions of practical Christianity.

HOMILETIC REVIEW. (New York: Funk & Wagnalls.)—The Review Section in the February number of this admirable monthly is more than usually attractive. The subjects discussed are all of a practical character, and the writers are all men of eminence. The same can also be said of the Sermonic Section which opens with a striking discourse by Professor Christlieb, of Bonn University. The other voluminous and varied contents of the number will be found interesting and profitable.

THE ENGLISH ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE. (New York: Macmillan & Co.)—The February *English Illustrated* gives as frontispiece a fine engraving of an Old Lady from Rembrandt's picture in the National Gallery. The three principal illustrated contributions are "The Weasel and his Family," by Benjamin Scott; "Fowls," by Harrison Weir, and "Coaching Days and Coaching Ways," Professor Minto's serial, "The Meditation of Ralph Hardelet," is continued, and "That Girl in Black," by L. Molesworth, is concluded.

THE AMERICAN MAGAZINE. (New York: The American Magazine Co.)—The well-known American naturalist, C. F. Holder, opens the February number with an interesting paper on "The Heart of the Sierra Madre," and Mr. J. Macdonald Oxley, of Ottawa, gives a most readable résumé of the results of the recent Hudson Bay Expedition in a paper entitled "The Inland Ocean of the North." The papers in this number are varied and interesting, and the story by Edgar Fawcett advances. There are several poems of great excellence by authors of acknowledged merit. The illustrations are more than usually good.

SCRIBNER'S MAGAZINE. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.)—Among the many attractions of the February number, beautifully illustrated, may be mentioned "Mendelssohn's Letters to Moscheles," "The Man at Arms" and "Volcanoes," by N. S. Shaler. Robert Louis Stevenson writes on "The Lantern-Bearers." The serials, "First Harvests," by F. J. Sunson, and "Natural Selection," by H. C. Buann, are continued. A paper of much interest is on "What the Will Effects," by William James. The poetical contributions to the number are of excellent quality. The illustrations are both numerous and good.

THE WORD. Addresses delivered at the Believers' Meeting for Bible Study, held at Niagara, July

19-28. Revised and corrected by the speakers. (Toronto: A. G. Watson, Willard Tract Depository.)—The addresses contained in this little volume range over a variety of topics both of speculative and practical interest. Besides those specially devoted to the advocacy of the premillennial theory, there are a number of addresses on subjects of practical Christian duty and experience. Among several others taking part in the conference were Drs. Brookes, West, Erdman, A. T. Pierson, Kellogg and Rev. Messrs. Parsons and Denovan, whose papers appear in the present volume.

THE PULPIT TREASURY. (New York: E. B. Treat.)—The divine who is honoured with a portrait and biographical sketch in this number is the Rev. Joseph Cumming, D.D., LL.D., President of the North-Western University, Evanston, Illinois, of which institution there are also several pictorial illustrations. The number opens with a good sermon by President Cumming, which is followed by two others well worth reading. Dr. S. H. Kellogg contributes a learned and lucid exegetical comment on 1 John 1:8; 11:2, and 11:6-10. The communications in the *Pulpit Treasury* have the merit of point and brevity as well as of great practical value.

THE LIVES OF ROBERT MOFFAT. By their son, John S. Moffat. With Portraits and Illustrations. New Edition. With Preface and Supplementary Chapter. (New York: A. C. Armstrong & Son; Toronto: Upper Canada Tract Society.)—This is a cheap edition of a work noticed some time ago in these columns. Though published at a price to bring it within the reach of all who might desire to possess it, there is nothing even in the get-up to give it a clumsy appearance. It is carefully printed, and neatly bound. The short preface to this edition is by Dr. William M. Taylor, and the supplementary chapter gives additional reminiscences by the author of the work. The immense success of the book when first issued showed how keen the general interest was in the faithful and devoted missionary. It is no small praise to say that it has met the expectations which its announcement aroused.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY. (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)—The high promise with which the *Atlantic Monthly* began the current year is well sustained in the February number. The fresh and fascinating story by E. H. House, entitled "Yone Santo, a Child of Japan," Charles Egbert Craddock's "Despot of Broomsedge Cove," are continued. The serial by Mrs. Oliphant and Mr. Aldrich, "The Second Son," is concluded in this issue. Among the prose articles those on "The Medea of Euripides," by William C. Lawton, and on "The Marriage Celebration in Europe," by Frank Gaylord Cook, are particularly valuable. George Parsons Lathrop contributes an interesting critical article on "George Meredith," and James Brock Perkins an essay on "Madame Necker." A clean cut bird sketch, entitled "The Blue Jay," is furnished by Oliver Thorne Miller. "Endymion," a poem of five pages by James Russell Lowell, which he himself describes as "a Mystical Comment on Titian's 'Sacred and Profane Love'" deserves especial mention. "The Gifts of the Fates," by Paul Hermes, merits and will receive warm commendation, as an unusually powerful production; and the briefer poems "At Gibraltar," by George E. Woodberry; "No Songs in Winter," by T. B. Aldrich; and "Carnations in Winter," by Bliss Carman, are literary jewels. This number carries, in addition to the above, the usual number of book reviews, notices of new books, and the Contributors Club.

RECEIVED:—MEDICAL SCIENCE. (Toronto: Martin, Toms & Co.)—This is a new monthly devoted to the discussion of medicine and surgery. It is under the editorial management of Drs. Bryce, Nattress Strathy and Nesbitt. The *POST GRADUATE AND WOOSTER QUARTERLY* (Wooster, Ohio), *THE CONVERTED CATHOLIC* (New York: James A. O'Connor), *A TRULY CATHOLIC CHURCH.* By H. Miles (Fort Worth, Texas), *THE OLD TESTAMENT STUDENT.* Edited by William R. Harper, Ph.D. (New Haven, Conn.), *THE AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN.* Edited by Rev. Stephen D. Peet (Mendon, Illinois), *BOOK NEWS* (Philadelphia: John Wanamaker), *THE NEW MOON* (Lowell, Mass: The New Moon Publishing Co.), *THE WOMAN'S JOURNAL* (Brattleboro, Vt.: Frank E. Housh & Co.)

THE MISSIONARY WORLD.

RELIGIOUS TOLERATION IN CHINA.

The following special proclamation has been issued: Fang, Official of the first rank, President of the Board of the Army, Member of the Censorate, Governor-General of Min Che.

Ko, Acting Garrison General of Foochow, Superintendent of Customs, Overseer of the forces under the Division General and the Brigadier General.

Yang, Superintendent of Military Affairs, Commissary of Stores, and Salt gabelle, Governor of Fookien, Hereby issue this proclamation

By an Imperial Edict granted long ago, missionaries of the various countries of the West have been permitted to preach Christianity in China, and Chinese subjects to embrace the same.

It is also stated in the treaties that "He who preaches and he who teaches it, is alike entitled to protection, provided that he leads a righteous life; and Chinese, who of their free will embrace it, being at the same time law observers, shall not be forbidden to do so nor be punished on account thereof."

Further it is on record that the foreign board some years ago memorialized the throne to the following effect: "Since religious festivals and processions, theatrical performances, incense offerings, etc., being not on the same footing with legitimate contributions for public services, do not concern Christians (we pray that) they be not forced to subscribe or to be apportioned a share." This petition was graciously granted and was carried into effect.

The foreign consuls have now requested that the above orders should be again made known to the public in order to avoid disturbances which may arise from calls on Christians for such petty contribution. The officials of the Foochow Office of Trade, through whom this request was made, respectfully pray us to grant their wish. Accordingly, we issue this proclamation for the information of soldiers and civilians in our jurisdiction.

You people ought to know that foreign Christian missions have for a long time been tolerated; that Chinese who join them are still our subjects, and still ought to obey the rules or law of the country; that they who preach and they who learn, being at the same time righteous in life, are to be protected without prejudice; and that religious festivals and processions, theatrical performances, incense offerings, etc., not being legitimate calls, are not to be forced on them, they being uninterested in the same.

From this date, all must respectfully obey the above orders, and they must not, by reason of such petty taxes give occasion to disturbances.

Let every one tremblingly obey and transgress not. Kwang-su, 13th year, 5th moon. (A.D. June 25, 1887.)

This proclamation is to be posted at ———; it is not to be injured by wind or rain.

THE missionary fields in Japan demand more men and more money. There are now 200 churches, with 15,000 members and 100 ordained Japanese ministers. REV. DR. STEEL, of Sydney, has baptized three natives of the New Hebrides, and a native of Ceylon, all of whom were taught by a Christian native of the New Hebrides, named Makum.

THE chief glory of England, says Archdeacon Farrar, has ever been that she has told it out among the heathen that the Lord is King, in what Carey did for India, Henry Martyn for Persia, Ellis for Madagascar, Morrison for China, Marsden for New Zealand, Allan Gardiner for Patagonia, Patterson for Melanesia, Mackenzie and Livingstone and Hannington for Africa. And in this Abbey, at this very day, not even the grave of Newton is dearer or more interesting to thousands of visitors, than the grave of the Glasgow cotton-piecer, David Livingstone, who, in the burning heat of that dark continent, died with black faces around him, afar from all he loved. To sneer at missionaries, a thing so cheap and so easy to do, has always been the fashion of libertines, cynics and worldings. A living duke has ventured to assure us that missionaries are an organized hypocrisy and a deplorable failure. The charge of hypocrisy deserves only a smile of disdain, the charge of failure an absolute contradiction. So far from having failed, there is no work of God which has received so absolute, so unprecedented a blessing. To talk of missionaries as a failure, is to talk at once like an ignorant and a faithless man.