

discipline necessary in public schools. It may and ought to be quiet, varied and informal, but natural and real. The Bible is a book of exhaustless variety, and in it will be found ample scope for all occasions and for all moods. What is chiefly required is that such instruction should be regular, earnest and affectionate. Line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little. Such faithful parental work would be a present joy and productive of inestimable future blessings. Duty and affection urge to its performance. Parents who are faithful in this respect will not fail of their reward. Their children will rise up, and call them blessed.

THE SUFFRAGE FOR WOMEN.

The agitation for female suffrage has spread to Canada, and Sir James Whitney has been interviewed, with a request to extend the franchise to the women of Ontario. The suffragettes have found a champion in Mr. Frapp, M.P.P. for Ottawa. Sir James has, however, given the request the cold shoulder, so the women of the province will still have leisure to attend to their household duties and other womanly concerns. In Sweden, however, they are advancing a little more rapidly, and the Diet, by a vote of 120 to 98 in the Upper and 134 to 98 in the Lower house, has passed an act to establish universal suffrage, which will give women not only the right to vote, but makes them eligible as candidates for all elective bodies. This law is in force in Finland, where some eight women have seats in the Diet. Australia and New Zealand are experimenting with woman suffrage, and we presume it will be adopted in Canada sooner or later. If women generally wished it, doubtless it could be had, but those who clamor for it are generally agitators. It is a significant fact, that in countries where women are held to be the equals, or perhaps even the superiors of men, woman suffrage is not desired.

No university on the American continent is better known than Harvard, situated at Boston. But while its reputation as a seat of learning is well established, it is unfortunately Unitarian—as Zion's Herald asserts, more decidedly so than ever. Yet, strange to say, in its theological faculty it has a Baptist and Congregational professor, though, as the Herald points out, neither are considered strictly orthodox. Unitarianism is very aggressive in some parts of the United States, but we are sorry to know that such a great institution as Harvard should be engaged in propagating it. We hope no Canadian will find his way there.

Rev. Dr. Donald Macleod, for 51 years in the ministry, 40 of which were spent in Park Parish, Glasgow, has notified his session of his intention to retire in November. Dr. Macleod is a brother of Dr. Norman Macleod, and has long been an outstanding figure in the Church of Scotland. His first charge was at Lauder, in Berwickshire, from whence he moved to Glasgow. Dr. Macleod succeeded his better-known brother, Norman, as editor of Good Words. He was also a favorite of Queen Victoria, being a frequent preacher before Her Majesty when at Balmoral.

THE INFALLIBLE RULE.

By Ulster Pat.

Editor Dominion Presbyterian: George Muller, of Bristol, hesitated to publish the narrative of his life, that wonderful record of God's answer to prayer, and honoring the faith of a man who under took and carried on a marvellous work with no means but the promises of God, because it would add another to the stream of books that were in so many cases directing men's minds from the study of the Bible. And while Muller's narrative is not of that character, the hesitation was well grounded. There really seems to be no end to "the making of many books," the study of which "is a weariness to the flesh."

"Among the chief sinners in this respect are some who undertake to write about the Bible. They are members of and claim to write in the interest of Christian bodies which profess to hold that no tradition of men should be added to the Scriptures, and yet they, like the Jewish teachers in the days of the Saviour's sojourn upon earth, appear to be so steeped in tradition as to have lost the ability to comprehend the simple, straightforward and sufficient narrative given us by inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Among the works "highly recommended" for Sunday school teachers at the present time is "Bible Studies on the Life of Christ," by Henry T. Sells, D.D. While I took up this book with an anticipation of profit in its perusal, the first paragraph brought disappointment, followed by indignation, for what is not twaddle is pernicious tradition. Let me give two or three instances by way of illustration: "When Jesus approached John to have this rite (baptism) administered, John was startled by the request, for he recognized who he was," etc. Now, John said explicitly, "I knew him not" until he "beheld the Spirit descending as a dove" after the rite. We are told that "many explanations are given of the meaning of this rite, so far as Christ is concerned, but several of them, in fact all of them, are unsatisfactory." Surely the Saviour's own reason should satisfy even Dr. Sell. It was that He should "fulfil all righteousness." "The time of His birth was probably 25th Dec. B.C. 5." That is, in winter, while the Bible plainly indicates that it was in summer, the season when shepherds kept, and keep, "watch by night over their flocks." God in His wisdom has seen fit not to reveal either the day or the year. Why should men seek to be wise "above what is written?"

Our author declares that "these shepherds guarded the flocks belonging to the temple, and the flocks were out the year round." It is not so now, in that land of little change, and there is no reason given in the Bible for believing such an improbable statement. The temple flock, of all others, would be carefully housed in the inclement season. Again: "There is special significance in the fact that . . . these shepherds were probably above the average in intelligence of men of their class." The lesson of the Bible narrative is quite the contrary—that not human intelligence but godliness secured special revelations of Divine love. Of the flight into Egypt we are told that "this was the nearest foreign country." But the Bible says the reason Jesus was taken thither was that it might be fulfilled, "Out of Egypt have I called my Son."

And so on throughout the book. After I had wearied of examining it, I turned to the Bible and found there refreshment for mind and soul, in a narrative plain, simple, straightforward, and bearing upon it the stamp of Truth—not needing to be bolstered up by tradition or improbable explanations and assumptions. O that our teachers and writers would realize the truth and force of

what is laid down in the Confession of Faith that the infallible rule of interpretation of Scripture is the Scripture itself; and that the supreme judge by which all opinions of writers and doctrines of men are to be examined, and on whose sentence we are to rest, can be no other but the Holy Spirit speaking in the Scriptures.

LITERARY NOTES.

Well-written stories, poems of considerable merit, Seed Thoughts for the Quiet Hour; a Suggestive Home Department; Children's Pages and Sunday School Articles, make up a readable number of this attractive magazine. We should mention that Georgina Binnie-Clark writes interestingly on "How Canada Receives the Emigrant Girl," and that there are a number of well executed illustrations.

The Studio for March contains an appreciative article on "Robert W. Allan's Recent Paintings and Drawings," by T. Martin Wood, with 12 illustrations; a look at which makes one wish to see more of this clever artist's work. Then we have "Some New Sculpture," by Alfred Drury; The Decorative Work of Henry Holiday, 8 illustrations; Chinese Pictures in Berlin, by Jarno Jensen, 9 illustrations; the Royal Scottish Academy's Annual Exhibition, 5 illustrations; Studio Talk from Glasgow, Paris, Berlin, Vienna, Philadelphia, etc., with numerous illustrations; Art School Notes; Reviews and Notices. We can only repeat what has been said before, that The Studio is indispensable to anyone wishing to keep himself in touch with the World's Art. Address 44 Leicester Square, London, W.C.

Naturally and quite properly Current Literature for April devotes a good deal of space to the Taft inauguration, giving excellent portraits of the members of the new Cabinet. The various departments of the magazine are well filled with up-to-date articles, in which the different tastes of a wide circle of readers are consulted. The review of a new book, "Christian Science Before the Bar of Reason," by Rev. Dr. Lambert, of New York, is the Roman Catholic reply to Christian Science, in which the author very ably deals with this modern cult. The attempt to give Christian Science philosophy a Christian purpose, direction and end is pronounced by Dr. Lambert utterly futile. "Christian Scienceism," he says, "is revolution against gross materialism. It is the opposite extreme. Materialism denies the existence of everything that is not matter; Christian Scienceism denies the existence of everything that is not spirit or mind. They are both errors, equidistant from the truth, which is that both material and spiritual beings exist." The whole article will be read with keen interest; and there are many others which go to make up a strong number of this popular periodical.

A notable man has recently passed away at the age of 86, in the person of George T. Angell, of Boston, the friend of dumb animals. Mr. Angell was a lawyer by profession, but from boyhood up was fond of animals. In 1866, having seen two horses run to death, he took action, and the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was the result. He started the organization of Bands of Mercy, of which there are now 73,000 scattered all over the world. A magazine, "Our Dumb Animals," which he published, has had a great effect in putting a check on cruelty to animals. Mr. Angell was also the champion of pure food laws. It is to be hoped some one will rise up to carry on the good work he did.