

Joseph the Prime Minister. By the Rev. WILLIAM M. TAYLOR, D.D., LL.D. Pp. 241. New York: Harper & Brothers. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$1.50.

The pastor of the Broadway Tabernacle is one of the most instructive and interesting of expository preachers. He takes some prominent Bible character and fairly exhausts the subject. Thus he has given us those admirable studies, Daniel the Beloved, Elijah the Prophet, Paul the Missionary, and now Joseph the Prime Minister. The story of Joseph is one of the favourites of our childhood, and it can never lose its spell of power. The present volume is characterized by Dr. Taylor's picturesque and polished style, by his spiritual insight, and by the practical lessons he evolves. We are persuaded that more expository preaching would instruct people in the Scriptures as a whole and their unity of design better than the selection of isolated texts so much in vogue. Of this style Dr. Taylor's volumes are an admirable model.

Sacred Songs, Sonnets, and Miscellaneous Poems. By JOHN IMRIE, with an introduction by G. MERCER ADAM. Pp. 210. Toronto: Imrie & Graham. Price \$1.00.

This is emphatically a collection of songs of the hearth and home. A considerable proportion are direct religious compositions, and there are a number of stirring patriotic poems; but the larger number are songs of home, love, and friendship—themes to which every heart will respond. The book is neatly printed and bound and has some graceful illustrations and pieces of music, and a portrait of the author.

Vagrant Verses. By JOSEPHINE POLLARD. Pp. 216. New York: Phillips & Hunt. Price \$1.00.

This is another dainty little gilded volume of poems dedicated to the home circle. Miss Pollard is an old favourite with readers of current

literature, and many of her poems bear the high endorsement of having appeared in such high-class periodicals as *The Century*, *Harper's Weekly*, *The Independent*, etc. There is a fine vein of humour running through many of them, especially the dialect poems, and in not a few a minor chord of pathos. Either volume will make an appropriate holiday gift-book.

A Plain Talk on the Labour Question. By SIMON NEWCOMB, LL.D. New York: Harper Brothers.

The substance of these letters appeared in the columns of the *New York Independent* and attracted much attention. They are here recast and somewhat amplified. They treat in a plain straightforward manner the important issues which are engaging all minds. They discuss succinctly Society and its Wants, Capital and its Uses, and the Labourer and his Wages. Dr. Newcomb's arguments have not escaped challenge, but they unquestionably refute much of the sophistry which has befogged this question.

Shots at Sundry Targets. By T. DEWITT TALMAGE, D.D. Cr. 8vo., pp. 656. New York: E. B. Treat. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$2.00.

Without question, Talmage is the most popular preacher of the age. No other living man influences so many minds by means of platform, pulpit or pen. We have here an authorized compilation of his most pointed and pithy paragraphs aimed at wrongs to be righted, errors to be corrected, dangers to be avoided, burdens to be lightened, follies to be shunned, sorrows to be mitigated, and victories to be won. In many of these there is exhibited a tender human sympathy or a deep religious fervour; in others there is strong invective, merciless irony and sarcasm, and keen sense of humour shooting folly as it flies and puncturing wind-bags of conceit. The rhetoric is at times somewhat per-