

To the strong stern—to Thee in meekness bowed!
 Father of unity, make this people one!
 Weld, interfuse them in the patriot's flame,—
 Whose forging on Thine anvil was begun
 In blood late shed to purge the common shame;
 That so our hearts, the fever of faction done,
 Banish old feud in our young nation's name."

The Theological and Homiletic Magazine (February). Edited by Rev. FREDERICK HASTINGS and Rev. A. F. MUIR, M.A. Toronto: S. R. Briggs.

This valuable homiletic is richly freighted in all its departments, and contains valuable contributions from the pens of several distinguished divines both in Britain and America, among whom may be mentioned Archdeacon Farrar, Oswald Dykes, D.D., J. Morison, D.D., Philip Brooks, D.D., and several others. The Expository Section is especially valuable, and is the part to which we always first turn as the monthly numbers reach us. Our ministerial brethren would do well to subscribe for this valuable monthly.—E. B.

Scripture Readings, for use in the Public and High Schools of Ontario. Toronto: Printed for the Education Department.

This book seems to us admirably adapted for the purpose for which it was intended, not by any means as a substitute for the Bible, but "to place in the hands of every teacher, in a convenient form, those portions of the Bible best adapted to the capacity of Public and High School pupils." Every one will admit that there are such passages, and the principle of selection being admitted, it would be difficult to find the work better done than it has been by Mr. Kerr in this volume. We are not surprised to find that it won the cordial approval of the influential representatives of almost all the Churches to whom it was submitted. We join heartily in the recommendation of

the Educational Department, that in addition to the daily readings of the Lessons, choice passages may be written upon the black-board, repeated in concert, and committed to memory by the pupils, that thus, "while avoiding any attempt at giving sectarian bias to the instruction imparted, the truths of the Bible may be impressed upon the pupils as the safest guides for life and duty." The only criticism we have to make is that, in our judgment, it would have been better to have indicated with each lesson the chapter and verses of the Bible of which it consists. We understand that this is to be done with the new edition.

In Defence of the Faith. By ALEX. OLIVER, B.A. Pp. 319. Edinburgh: Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier.

From the time of Bishop Butler, one of the most important departments of the evidences of Christianity is that which reveals the analogy between natural and revealed religion. To this department the immortal work of Paley, on "Natural Theology"; Dr. Chalmers' "Astronomical Discourses"; Prof. Drummond's "Natural Law in the Spiritual World" are all most valuable contributions. Of this important class the volume before us is an excellent example. It consists of Sunday evening lectures, delivered in Glasgow, which were received with such favour as to demand their republication. They discuss in the light of the most recent science such subjects as, God in matter; God in instinct; God in mind; Nature and immortality; Christianity's divine power in its early conquests; Christianity an answer to man's necessities; The historic reality of Christ; The miraculous in Christ's history; The fruits of Christianity; Infidelity subversive of morality, and kindred topics. The style of the book is most interesting, and the illustrations are very lucid and apposite, and the line of argument we regard as of irrefragable cogency. We heartily commend the book, especially for the reading of young people.