

Henrik Ibsen, 1828-1888. A Critical Biography. By HENRIK JÄGER. From the Norwegian, by WM. ORTON PAYNE. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$1 50.

Ibsen is certainly one of the most striking figures of recent and contemporary literature. Much interest has been created in the man and his work; indeed, he has created a special school of criticism. The present volume gives a record of his life and a critical estimate of his principal works, with illustrative extracts. Ibsen struggled up through many difficulties, first to national recognition, and then to world-wide fame. His personal struggles seem to have invested his poetry with a sombre, pessimistic cast. Mixed with his Danish blood are strains of German and Scottish, but still he is a typical Norseman, like one of the old Scalds speaking in modern tongue. Some of his more recent dramas, "The Doll's House," "Ghosts," and "Rosmerholm," voice a revolt from the conventions of society, which have brought upon him severe criticism. This biography is written from the point of view of an admiring friend, and gives the material for forming an independent judgment on this now famous man and his more notable works. Several portraits of Ibsen in his youth and old age and numerous other illustrations embellish the volume.

Sermons and Addresses, by the late Rev. S. J. HUNTER, D.D., with brief memoir by Rev. W. J. HUNTER, D.D., Methodist Book Rooms, Toronto, Montreal and Halifax. Pp. 365. Price \$1.25.

The late Dr. Hunter was one of the most able and eloquent preachers of Canadian Methodism. In these sermons his many friends throughout the country may hear again the echo of his voice and feel the impress of his spirit. We can almost follow the impressive cadences of his tones in the sentences of these sermons and lectures. Many of them have a local colouring from their allusions to Canadian events. Especially is

this true in the addresses on "The Development of the Missionary Spirit;" "The Gospel the Want of Our Age;" "Our Methodist Heritage;" "The Bible Society Address;" and his lecture on "Hymns and Hymn Writers of our New Hymn-Book." Dr. Hunter was a man of wide culture and reading, and into these sermons he has put his very soul, as well as deep feeling and piety. His brother, the Rev. Dr. W. J. Hunter, contributes a beautiful memorial sketch, and the Rev. Dr. Dewart pays a tribute to a life-long friend in an introduction. The cultured face and the keen black eyes of the preacher are well shown in a portrait.

The Canadians of Old. By PHILIPPE AUBERT DE GASPE. Translated by CHAS. G. D. ROBERTS. New York: D. Appleton & Co. Toronto: Wm. Briggs.

It is now nearly thirty years since the inaugurators of that patriotic, French-Canadian publication, the "Soirées Canadiennes," resolved that if the life, characteristics and general folk-lore of the early French in Canada were not to be consigned to oblivion, some intelligent effort must be made at once to perpetuate such knowledge, and to put the records of the race into a historical form, which should hand down a true account of the life, customs and struggles of their ancestors of the old regime. M. De Gaspé was already an old man when this resolution was made, but he nevertheless set to work, and as a result we have this charming little historical romance now before us. It has been translated from the original by our well-known *littérateur*, Prof. C. G. D. Roberts, who has very happily reproduced much of the quaintness and pleasing simplicity of style, which are by no means the least charming characteristics of the original.—A. B.

God in His World; an Interpretation. Gilt top. Pp. 270. New York: Harper Brothers. Toronto: William Briggs. Price \$1.25.

The anonymity of this book in-