

THE POCKET MANUAL OF CONGREGATIONALISM. By Rev. A. Hastings Ross. Pages xvi. 190. Cloth, 54 cents, postage paid. (E. J. Alden, State Street, Chicago.) Our friends will remember Mr. Ross at the last Union meeting as bearer from the National Council of the Congregational Churches of the United States to us of their fraternal greeting. His address we gave in full in our July number. The manual is generally useful as a guide to our pastors, churches, and members, in matters pertaining to Congregational polity in its general working. According to its own prospectus it gives the Western theory of Ministerial Standing, by which purity and liberty are secured in Congregational or independent churches, a matter referred by National Council to the churches of the States. It contains the amended Constitution and By-laws of the National Council, besides the matters treated in other manuals. We may take occasion sometime to critically examine some of its positions. Meanwhile, we commend it as a handy, comprehensive, cheap, and safe book of forms and principles to all our churches as supplying a want often felt.

ASTRUM ALBERTI is again at hand, bright and breezy. As Albert unites with Victoria under the union compact of the Methodist churches she will carry thither enterprise and power, which will materially advance the *prestige* and efficiency of the united universities. The *Astrum* staff will be a credit anywhere.

THE HOMILETIC MONTHLY for December by these publishers is one of unusual excellence. The articles show ripe scholarship and appreciation of the tastes and needs of our preachers. "The Gospel and the Poor in our Cities," the complement to a paper in the May number of *The Homiletic Monthly* by the same author deserves, both from the subject and its mode of treatment, special attention. The present issue is an earnest of the "new departure" on the road to perfection promised at the beginning of the new volume. \$2.50 a year, 25 cents a single number. The general agent for the Dominion of Canada for all the publications of this house is William Briggs, 78 and 80 King Street East, Toronto.

THE December number of THE PULPIT TREASURY, Dr. Sanderson, Editor (E. B. Treat, Publisher, 757 Broadway, New York), lies before us, with its portrait of Dr. W. M. Taylor, of New York, and its sixty-four pages "replete with thoughts of other men." Though covering the same ground as the monthly last noticed it has excellencies of its own, and though it may be invidious to draw comparisons, it is not invidious to say that healthy rivalry and variety of choice does secure for the reading public greater excellency in style and matter than would otherwise be obtained.

OUR excellent contemporary, the BOSTON CONGRE-

GATIONALIST, has sent us a lithograph *facsimile* of the first page—reduced size—of twelve leading religious journals of the United States, and projected on the page of their respective journals excellent photographic likenesses of the editors. The plate is not only pleasing but historic, and our editorial thanks are hereby tendered to our contemporary. The journals thus pictured are: *Congregationalist*, H. M. Dexter, editor; *Herald and Presbyterian*, J. G. Monfort; *Churchman*, Geo. S. Mallory; *New York Observer*, S. Iraaas Prime; *Sunday School Times*, H. Clery Turnbull; *Independent* (New York), Henry C. Bowen; *Evangelist* (New York), Henry M. Field; *Interior*, Wm. C. Gray; *Christian Register*, S. J. Barrows; *Christian Standard*, Isaac Errett; *Christian Advocate*, J. M. Buckley; *Examiner*, Edward Bright. A finer set of manly faces we venture to say cannot be brought together. Religious journalism need not hang its head for its editors, it is forbidden to be proud.

THE CENTURY and ST. NICHOLAS December numbers are more than usually full of excellent matter. It is difficult to speak from month to month of these magazines without seeming to repeat praise *ad nauseam*, but certainly, for general literature and frequent articles, historical and scientific, of permanent value, the *Century* has few equals and no superiors; and *St. Nicholas* supplies just that kind of useful and entertaining reading for youth as is fitted to develop a correct taste and high moral tone. Without any direct religious teachings, as generally understood, the truly religious tendency of these magazines is unmistakable.

AMONG new journalistic enterprises we have pleasure in noting a new journal of literature, politics and criticism, THE WEEK, edited by Charles G. D. Roberts and published by C. Blackett Robinson, Toronto, every Thursday at \$3 per annum. The first issue appeared December 6th. *The Week* will appeal by a comprehensive table of contents to the different tastes which exist within the circle of a cultured home, and will endeavour faithfully to reflect and summarize the intellectual, social, and political movements of the day. Mr. Goldwin Smith will be a regular contributor. Mr. Edgar Fawcett, author of "An Ambitious Woman," "A Gentleman of Leisure," etc., contributes to *The Week* a novel of New York society, entitled, "The Adventures of a Widow." Principal Grant, of Queen's University, will write, among other valuable papers, a series descriptive of a tour taken by him during the past summer "Down the Kicking Horse and Across the Selkirks." Dr. Grant will also contribute articles on various important subjects, such as Indian affairs, Progress in British Columbia, etc. Mr. J. E. Collins will contribute, among other papers, one on the