

the mode, are more explicitly taught in God's word, than this essential doctrine of the commonly accepted faith, we do utterly and emphatically deny the statement. We affirm that there is not one verse in the Bible proving immersion as the only mode of baptizing or the only Baptism, and not one verse in the Bible proving that only believers are to be baptized, and not one verse in the Bible proving beyond doubt or controversy—that is, in express word that any one was ever immersed in being baptized. But this writer claims that "all men, always and in all places, accept immersion as baptism; not to accept it, is not to accept baptism." And we ask: Why is it recognized as baptism? (We do not say it is accepted—for that would not be true). Simply because, thereby we wish to recognize the Baptist body as an Evangelical denomination, and because we wish to respect every brother's conscience in all things doubtful, or not essential. This, God's word commands. Good and wise men differ as to the Bible-teachings touching the mode and subjects of baptism. Since these differences are not about "things essential," ought we not to show Christian charity? If it be said that we are disobedient to a plain command of Christ's own giving, we must deny it. We believe that Baptism is commanded; and we believe we obey the command in our mode and subjects. We believe this more firmly that we believe that the "Baptists" are right! And, certainly, in the Presbyterian Church we do not accept or practice immersion. Some cases immersion there were, formerly; but, because of our great doubt as to the Scripturalness of this mode, it is now disapproved among us, in practice. Notwithstanding all that this Baptist writer says, we do not "agree on immersion as baptism" for ourselves; and we cannot be immersed "without doing violence either to conviction or conscience. As to the "highest scholarship," etc., we have good reason to know and say that when writers and others are fairly and fully represented or quoted, their "concessions" to Baptist are worthless, and, in many cases, merely imaginary. But were it otherwise, we cannot depart from our law, "that Christ alone can make laws for His Church; and the Bible is the only rule of faith and practice." The baptism given in the example of Christ is found in Acts ii. It is the only case in the Bible where the mode cannot be argued at all. It came from above, was "poured" (v. 18) upon the heads of those receiving it. Not one case of immersion is mentioned in all the Book! This is not the place to argue the meaning of the original word, as used before Christ adopted it. Suffice it to say that neither classic Greek, nor any other, justifies immersion as the one mode; and the Bible does not justify it at all, in our view. We must not conclude without remarking upon the very strange assertion that the so-called "Teaching of the Apostles," does not call anything baptism but immersion; that "it gives directions for baptism, and then, when the conditions for baptism are wanting, . . . it gives permission for something else, not called baptism." In the directions about

baptism in that document, immersion is not once mentioned, nor even hinted at! Two kinds of water are mentioned; "Living," that is, fresh, or running water, is preferred. "But if thou hast not both (kinds), pour water (the kind thou hast) upon the head," etc. And this pouring is called baptism, afterwards! No one can read that document, then say truly, "Baptists alone live up to it." The further claim of Baptists that "all are agreed on immersion as baptism. . . All can be baptized (immersed) without doing violence either to conviction or conscience," we object to, most emphatically. We have explained why we recognize immersion. But for ourselves we cannot conscientiously accept it, nor administer it to others.—*Herbert H. Hawes, in the Century Magazine.*

BOOK NOTICES.

THE LIFE OF GEORGE WASHINGTON. By Washington Irving. In four volumes. Publisher, John B. Alden, New York and Toronto. The history of the American Union is so associated with that of the old country and of Canada that students of our own annals need to read such a work as the above, which Mr. Alden's enterprise has made accessible to all classes by its cheapness. The work is illustrated by portraits and maps. Histories hitherto have been too costly for the great mass of readers, hence the unfortunate custom of buying a lower class of cheap literature. When a Life of Washington can be had for the cost of some book of momentary interest, surely a higher taste must grow. We trust this history will have a large sale. It is attractively bound and has the rich appearance indicative of a work thrice its cost.

INGLESIDE RHAIMS. By J. E. Rankin. Published by Alden, N. Y. and Toronto. Not having the privilege of being Scotch we can hardly claim to be in a position to appreciate Mr. Rankin's poetry as it is expressed in Doric "too far north" for us. We can, however, catch glimpses of meaning which reveal the faculty divine of a born singer, and of a sweet tenderness as touching as the music and pathos of Burns.

ENTERING ON LIFE. By Dr. Geikie. Published by Alden, N. Y. and Toronto. We commend these essays as likely to be of great value to youths and young men. Parents should see to it that their sons and daughters, too, possess a work of this class.

MASSAGE. By Dr. Taylor. Alden, N. Y. and Toronto. The work will be of value to those attracted by a mode of physical exercise said to be of curative value.

THE PLEASURES OF LIFE. By Sir John Lubbock Bart, F.R.S., &c. Published by Alden, N.Y. and Toronto. Sir John Lubbock's ideas as to what is pleasure must be widely different to those generally held. It would be a blessed redemption for the world if pleasure came to have the high meaning it bears in the charming collection of Sir John Lubbock's addressess. Sir Cornwall Lewis once said, "Life would be endurable but for its pleasures." The statesman was of too sedate a cast to enjoy anything usually called pleasure. But such pleasures as those of home, of travel, of friends, of books, of science, which the gifted baronet dwells upon, these are pleasures which while they delight, dignify, purify and exalt those whom they attract. The work is itself a pleasure and almost a costless one.

ZENOPIA, OR, THE FALL OF PALMYRA. By William Ware. Published by Alden, N. Y. and Toronto. The work is in the old-fashioned form of letters of L. Manlius Piso, from Palmyra, to his friend, Marcus Curtius, at Rome.

THE PEOPLE'S BIBLE. Discourses upon Holy Scripture. By Joseph Parker, D.D., Minister of the City Temple, Holborn Viaduct, London. Vol. VI. Judges VI. Samuel XVIII. New York: Funk & Wagnalls. 8vo, cloth, \$1.50. This volume embraces the last sixteen chapters of Judges, the whole of Ruth, and the first eighteen chapters of Samuel. The five former volumes have elicited the highest commendation from both ministers and laymen, and this is by no means inferior to them. "Those who have had the rare pleasure of reading the former volume of this series will not be slow to secure this last edition of the series. Dr. Parker is a genius in both exegesis and Homiletics. He flashes new light upon these old books, and starts the students mind in a thousand different directions. His books are as valuable for what they suggest, but do not say, as for what they say."

Thus far we quote the words of another, but we heartily bear our testimony to the value and charm of Dr. Parker's work. With occasional dips into doctrinal error we are not so much concerned in a work that we regard pre-eminently worthy of a honored place in every christian family. It is a mine of rich material for clergymen from which to enrich their own stores, and provide for the bringing forth treasures new and old for their flocks. "The People's Bible" will, we trust, command so very large a sale that not in name only but in fact it will be the Bible of the people.

THE CHURCH REVIEW. Edited by Rev. Henry Mason Baum. Published by Geddes & Co., N.Y. Annual subscription, \$4. It would afford us lively satisfaction to see this Review in the hands of all churchmen who are able to appreciate the marked literary ability displayed in every issue. In the August number are articles on "A Lost Empire Restored," "Right Uses of the Doctrine of Intention," "History of the Papacy during the Reformation," "Life, Times and Correspondence of Bishop White," by Bishop Perry, "The First Bishop of Nova Scotia," also by Bishop Perry. All these are deeply interesting and original papers; the editor is indeed a lavish provider. The paper to us most valuable for Canadian churchmen is the one on "The organization of the early Christian churches," in which Mr. Hatch is freely handled and his anti-christian theories broken up. The clergy generally would do a much needed service to themselves and their people by getting such periodicals as "The Church Review," widely circulated by means of book clubs in their parishes.

We have received—

THE STORY OF ASSYRIA AND ALEXANDER'S EMPIRE, being two volumes of "The Story of the Nations." A valuable series of historical works, issued by Putnam & Sons, New York. We have not space for review this week, but may quote what was said to us a few days ago by an educated churchwoman. She said, "I never could bear books of history, but I am reading one of those called 'The story of the Nations,' and I find it as fascinating as any novel, and the children are always glad to have me read to them out of it."

CAMEOS OF ENGLISH HISTORY. By the author of "The Heir of Redcliffe." Published by Macmillan. On sale by Williamson & Co., Toronto. This is a re-setting of the Cameo, "forty years of Stewart rule," not a gem in subject, but made so by Miss Yonge's treatment.

SCENES AND CHARACTERS. By Charlotte M. Young. Published by Macmillan. On sale by Williamson & Co., Toronto. We need hardly say that the young readers of "Scenes and Characters" will find everything to charm that delights them in a story book, while they cannot but be wiser, happier and better for the influence which is exercised by the moral lessons conveyed so quietly by this gifted authoress.

The American edition of The Illustrated London News for Oct. 1st contains a full page illustration of Miss Mary Anderson as Hermoine in "A Winter's Tale," pictures of the New Chinese Naval Squadron, and an illustrated article on English Exploration in Egypt, besides other articles of inter-