

of Religious and Pure Literature should be noticed. This department has increased enormously. The Society not only puts forth Bibles and Prayer Books in many languages and in many different forms, but it is the source of a continually-increasing stream of literature, wholesome, religious, and produced under religious influence, which is of the greatest possible value. In 1883 about three million books and pamphlets were put forth annually. According to the last report they amounted to eight millions and a half.

Theological works of great worth are frequently brought out under its auspices. Apologetic works are numerous in its catalogues—not only those of the great champions of the faith in older times, which are reproduced with additions bringing them up to the requirements of the present time, but also treatises by some of the most eminent scholars and divines of the present day. Books of devotion, reflecting the spirit of the English Church, are published in forms suited for old and young; and a very important department is that of works of fiction, responding to the wish long ago expressed by Arnold, when he said that it was not so much religious books that were wanted, as books under religious influence, and with a religious tone. As was well remarked by Dr. Parkin, in his admirable address, if the Society had done no more than give to the world the writings of the late Mrs. Ewing, it would deserve well of the Church and the nation. It is greatly to be hoped that a deeper interest will, for the future, be taken in the Dominion, in this great Society, and that we may be stirred up to give back, for the benefit of more needy countries, some of the bountiful gifts which we have received through so many years.

SOME WORDS ON THE ZOLA CASE.

Much has been said and written on the Zola case; and with great part of what has been said on the farce of the Trial by Jury in France, we cordially agree. This is no new thing. We are quite accustomed to hear of the judge prejudging the case before the evidence was completed—addressing the accused in words of vituperation—charging the jury with the passion of an Advocate, instead of marshalling the two sides of the evidence with equity and gravity. With all this we are quite familiar; and it is a little curious to find that, just as Trial by Jury is falling a little in general estimation among English-speaking people, and this not from such abuses as are found in French courts, it should be putting on such forms as have recently been witnessed in Paris. Whether the exclusion of certain kinds of evidence was in any way justified, we cannot be quite sure; but it is plain enough that the army is at the present moment master of France, and no one need be very much surprised if, before long, that great country should again be under a military dictator.

There is, however, another point, in connection with the Zola trial, which deserves more attention than it has received, and this is the apparent absence of evidence to sustain M. Zola's accusations. We have no doubt in the world that the eminent novelist was sincere in his charges, that he really believed what he

said about the adversaries of Captain Dreyfus. But it is not enough that a man should be sincere: when he publishes a libel, he ought to have substantial reasons for the formation of his opinion. Now, it is quite possible that M. Zola may have had testimony of a private character upon which he thought he might rely. Apparently, Madame Dreyfus had assured him of her husband's innocence; but the testimony of a lady in such a case, where affection is engaged, even if the inculpated person is not her husband, is of very little value; and apparently she furnished no facts which M. Zola could use at his trial. It became necessary, therefore, for M. Zola's counsel, in the absence of any witnesses in favour of his client, to attempt to extract evidence from the witnesses who appeared on the other side. This is hardly a course to be approved or imitated, and we can scarcely wonder that it ended in failure. However, there is an appeal, and we may yet learn more of the merits of the case.

REVIEWS.

The Gate Called Beautiful. An Institute of Christian Sociology. By Edward A. Warriner, author of "Kear," "I Am that I Am," etc.; 12mo. pp. 355. \$1.50. New York: Thomas Whittaker. Toronto: Rowsell and Hutchison.

This topic of sociology is occupying much attention at present, and each writer contributes his own ideas towards the solution of a difficult problem. The vis inertiae is at least two-fold, the consolidation of vested interests, and the weight of public opinion. Were we able to remodel the world on the simple spirit and letter of the Gospel, as it proceeded from the Lord Himself, we should realize and put into life what true socialism aims at. But while the world remains in imperfection and sin, we shall never attain this ideal, and much of our literature thereon must be a pious romancing. Yet if we cannot start anew, we can teach and act as a leaven, so as to ameliorate where we cannot take up and transform. In the earlier books of our volume Mr. Warriner deals very clearly and concisely with principles and objects to be aimed at. His three Gospels of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity present lofty and worthy ideals. But the second half, upon the Parasites, and Applied Christianity, is much less satisfactory. What Government, for instance, could see, and what subjects would permit the oversight, that "no persons should be permitted to marry who are incapable of producing reasonably healthy offspring." There is much, of course, all through the volume with which we entirely agree, but too often there is the declamatory writing of the demagogue, which does not help on the cause of Christian betterment. The Church of God must teach with all fidelity, but the knowledge of truth is not the agent in performing it. All men may be equal, but some men prefer not to believe it, and even the Deity cannot compel them.

The Ideal Life. By Henry Drummond. Price \$1.25. Toronto: Revell Co., 1898.

Professor Henry Drummond, who died at a comparatively early age, was a very remarkable man. He sprang into an immediate and wide popularity by his book on "Natural Law in the Spiritual Life," a work of very considerable literary merits, nor without merits of a theological character, which, however, was unsound in several points. We are glad to see, from Dr. Watson's Introduction, that the author himself became aware of these defects. It would appear, however, that his personality was still more striking than his writings; and

there was good hope that, as he matured, he might add something considerable to our religious literature. This hope has been dashed by his removal; and we have here before us some "addresses hitherto unpublished," which may perhaps be the last we shall have. Of course they have the disadvantage of not having received the last touches from the author; but they are eminently worthy of preservation nevertheless. The subjects are such as the following: Ill Temper; Why Christ Must Depart; Going to the Father, the Eccentricity of Religion, etc. They are thoughtful, energetic, lucid, gentle; and will be most useful and helpful.

The Days of Mohammed. By Anna May Wilson. Chicago: Cook Publishing Co., 1897.

This is a prize story, which brought the writer 1,000 dollars, and it is published in pamphlet form for 5 cents. We hope it may also appear in book form, for it deserves it. It is the story of a Persian priest, who, dissatisfied with his religion, sought his way to higher and purer truth, and found Christ and held to Him in the days of Mahomet. The writer has taken pains to make the historical setting of her story correct, so that one may get a good knowledge of the times; whilst she has kept steadily before her the aim of showing "that it is possible to begin the heaven-life on earth."

Sabre Thrusts at Free Thought. By Rev. W. W. Walker. Price 75 cents. Toronto: W. Briggs, 1898.

Mr. Walker assails the higher criticism and other forms of unbelief or partial belief; and he makes a number of good points. In regard to the Old Testament History a number of useful corroborative facts are given, which may satisfy the ordinary reader that the framework of the ancient narrative is sound. In regard to the New Testament, the writer does much more than this: he places sure ground under the feet of the believer. There are (we may remark) some very good observations on the Intermediate State. The book, on the whole, is a very useful one.

Magazine.—The Expository Times (March) is as good as ever, and that is very good. The notes are excellent. Miss Mary A. Yule, of Edinburgh, writes of Browning's "Saul" in a strain which will delight all Browningites, and which perhaps may convert others to an appreciation of what she calls a "magnificent poem." The exposition is full and copious, and by no means wearisome. Among the notices of books we may perhaps single out one on Professor Clark's "Anglican Reformation," in which it is said: "if he writes with passion, it is the dispassionate passion of a true historian. His passion does not blind him. He sees clearly what the greatest issues were, and succeeds in showing them to us." Professor Manen, of Leiden, continues his paper on a Wave of Hypercriticism, which was begun in the February number. It is to be concluded in the next number, when we shall offer some estimate of its merits. The "great Text" is indeed great on the expediency of the departure of Christ, St. John xvi. 7. There are good notes and two useful outlines given. A thoughtful article on the "Rationale of the Atonement" comes from Dr. John Taylor, of Winchcombe. Many of the smaller articles are full of interest.

NOTICE

All subscribers to the late "Church Evangelist" must pay their arrears to The Canadian Churchman who are one year or less in arrears previous to the 1st March, 1898.