

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES.

VICK'S ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY. (Rochester, N.Y.: James Vick.)—In preparing for the approaching spring, the amateur gardener will do well to avail himself of Mr. Vick's counsel.

THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST. By Anthony W. Thorold, D.D., Lord Bishop of Rochester. (New York: A. D. F. Randolph & Co. Price \$1.25.)—This handsome, red-edged, limp-covered volume of 219 pages contains a clear and earnest presentation of evangelical truth.

SCHOOL ROOM HYGIENE. If trustees, teachers, and all others concerned, were to follow the simple directions given in this pamphlet by Mr. D. Fotheringham, Public School Inspector of North York, the general health of school children would be much improved.

SCATTERED. By Mrs. A. K. Dunning. (Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication; Toronto: N. Ure & Co. Price \$1.) This is No. 2 of the Letting-Down-the-Bars series. It is a quiet story of American home life, and will make a good Sabbath school library book.

THE SOUTHERN PULPIT. (Richmond, Va.: Jackson & Lafferty.)—The department of illustrations for sermons and lectures in the February number of the "Southern Pulpit" is very full and valuable. The original sermons and outlines are, as usual, well worthy of attention.

COMPARATIVE EDITION OF THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK. (Philadelphia: American Sunday School Union.)—Sabbath school teachers who may not be in possession of the comparative edition of the New Testament, will find this little book useful in the preparation of the current lessons.

ST. NICHOLAS. (New York: Century Publishing Company.)—There is surely a treat in store for some good boys and girls in the February number of "St. Nicholas," under such headings as "The Adventures of Prince Nezahualcoyotl" and "The Man in the Moon." The number is richly illustrated, as usual.

TEACHER'S PRIMER NO. 1. (Philadelphia: American Sunday School Union.)—This is a manual on the organization and classification of Sabbath schools. Ministers, superintendents and others will find it of very great use, especially on new ground. The necessary definitions and directions are given with admirable terseness.

THE HOMILETIC MAGAZINE. London: Kegan Paul, Trench & Co., New York: A. D. F. Randolph & Co.) We have received the January number of this magazine—formerly the "Homiletic Quarterly." Besides a sermon in full, it contains a large quantity of condensed matter in the departments of practical homiletics and exposition.

MARION'S TEMPTATION; OR, ABIDING IN CHRIST. By Margaret E. Winslow. (Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication; Toronto: N. Ure & Co. Price 75 cents.)—In this well-written and very readable though serious story, warning beacons are set up against the first step of departure from the Good Shepherd, and the path of return from backsliding is invitingly traced.

THE WESTMINSTER TEACHER. (Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication.)—Not only the regular lesson expositions, but the incidental papers appearing in the "Westminster Teacher," will be found available as help in Sabbath school work—for example, the article on "Miracles," by Dr. De Witt, and that on "Sabbath Schools in the Country," by J. H. Coyle, in the March number.

CASSELL'S FAMILY MAGAZINE. (Toronto: J. P. Clegher.)—Along with the due instalments of two serial stories, and an amusing epitome of a Chinese novel, the February number of "Cassell's Magazine" contains not a little useful information and instruction on such subjects as household management, free libraries, gardening, dress, recent inventions and scientific discoveries, with a piece of music, and the usual profusion of well-executed illustrations.

LIVING CHRISTIANITY; OR, OLD TRUTHS RE-STATED. By the Rev. L. J. Halsey, D.D., LL.D. (Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication; Toronto: N. Ure & Co. Price \$1.25.)—This is just the book for the times. The title is no misnomer. The truths are the old truths, and the author, in restating them, diminishes neither their substance nor their

force, while he presents them to the mind of the every-day reader with remarkable clearness and comprehensiveness.

THE CENTURY MAGAZINE. (New York: Century Publishing Company.) The February number of the "Century" contains a paper by Ralph Waldo Emerson on "The Superlative," and a new poem by Mr. Longfellow, with articles by several other contributors of scarcely less note. The magazine appears in a new outer cover, from which the name "Scribner" has entirely disappeared. The publishers announce an addition of 13,000 copies to the circulation since the recent change.

IMMERSION. By Rev. W. A. McKay, B.A., Woodstock, Ont.—The full title of this book is "Immersion Proved to be Not a Scriptural Mode of Baptism, but a Romish Invention, and Immersionists shown to be Disregarding Divine Authority in Refusing Baptism to the Infant Children of Believers." It has been already noticed in these columns, and we have now only to state that it is meeting with a very large demand; and that a third edition, enlarged and carefully revised, has just been issued. Orders may be addressed to the author.

THE MALE VOICE CHOIR. (Boston: Oliver Ditson & Co.)—This is a collection of original and selected Gospel songs, with all the parts arranged so as to suit the voices of men. In the ordinary arrangement men cannot reach the higher notes of the air with any pleasing effect. It is better, then, that they restrict themselves to the bass and tenor when singing along with ladies; but if a company of men should wish to sing alone, this book furnishes them with every facility for doing so, as in it the highest parts are never beyond the reach of an ordinary male voice.

THE CANADA EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY. (Toronto: C. E. M. Publishing Co.)—This magazine, excellent as it was, has been greatly improved by having the Hamilton "School Magazine" incorporated with it. The latter, the oldest educational periodical in Ontario, was noted for excellence in practical school work, and the addition of its conductors to the staff of the "Educational Monthly" results in a stride of progress that would probably never be compassed by either publication standing alone. The columns of the January number give evidence that strength is not the only advantage resulting from a well-assorted union.

THE SCRIPTURAL DOCTRINE OF BAPTISM. By the Rev. Robert Jardine, B.D., D.Sc. (Brockville: Publisher by the Author.)—In this neat pamphlet of thirty-three pages we have the substance of a lecture delivered in the First Presbyterian Church, Brockville, to the united congregations of that church and St. John's. In dealing with the two disputed questions the subjects and the mode of baptism—the author evinces great ability, and an admirable spirit of kindness towards opponents. The publication is well fitted to further its avowed object—not controversy or aggression, but the instruction of "Presbyterians, especially those of immature age, in the principles of their faith, as far as regards baptism."

ROSE-BELFORD'S CANADIAN MONTHLY. (Toronto: Rose-Belford Publishing Co.)—Regarded as a magazine for family reading, the "Canadian Monthly" is making marked improvement. In this aspect the February number is the best that we have seen. "The Major's Big-Talk Stories," in the Young People's department; two contributed stories, short and lively; "A Day with the Children," "Stray Thoughts at Random Strung," and "Illustrations of Canadian Life," will be sure to attract the attention of those who read for entertainment; and such papers as those on "Modern Life and Nervous Force," "Canadian Independence," and "The Future of Canada," will be read with interest if not with avidity.

BOYHOOD HOURS; Comprising a Collection of Simple Poems, Songs and Odes. By A. M. Taylor. (Toronto: Hunter, Rose & Co.)—If the title, "Boyhood Hours," and the modest plea put forth in the preface in behalf of "the immature efforts of a puerile pen," be accepted in good faith, it must be admitted that this book deserves some praise. It contains many crudities in conception, and a variety of blemishes in execution, but it also contains fragmentary passages here and there that give out the sparkle and ring of genuine poetry. The power evinced by these passages the author has not succeeded in bringing into

anything like uniform action. It is there nevertheless, and future efforts may make its presence still more manifest. The sentiment in all the pieces that we have examined is wholesome, though it is sometimes obscured by inflated verbiage. Judging by this first attempt, it is quite possible that in years to come the author may be heard of as a poet.

THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE SOUL AND THE BODY. By a Canadian Clergyman. (Toronto: Printed by C. Blackett Robinson.)—To the task of investigating the relation of the soul and body in the light of physiology, metaphysics, and divine revelation, and exposing the fallacies of Materialism, the author of this pamphlet, Rev. Alexander Nicol, of Ayton, brings very marked powers of perception and analysis, with a fair share of the kind of ability required for logical construction and unambiguous expression. His conclusions are eminently reasonable. His theory, in the main, is undoubtedly that held by most Christians who are conversant with the ascertained facts of modern science, and the details of his system will probably meet with general acceptance, tentatively and subject to correction by future discoveries. We welcome the work, and commend it to the attention of our readers as a valuable and timely contribution to a very important department of knowledge.

CYCLOPEDIA OF PRACTICAL QUOTATIONS. (New York: I. K. Funk & Co., Toronto: W. Briggs.)—This book will be of much use to writers, saving them much time and labour. It contains eight hundred and ninety-nine large octavo pages, six hundred and forty-nine of which are in double columns, the remaining pages consisting of three narrower, but very compact columns. There are four hundred and eighty-eight pages of quotations, in verse and prose, from English writers, of all periods, classified and arranged in alphabetical order, to which are added thirteen pages of unclassified quotations, arranged under the names of their authors, also in alphabetical order. There are seventy-three pages of quotations from the classical Latin authors, and there are forty-five pages devoted to proverbs and mottoes in various languages, ancient and modern, Latin law terms and phrases in common use, and ecclesiastical terms and definitions. The names of authors quoted, and the dates of their birth and death, occupy fifteen pages, there are seven pages of topical indices of English and Latin subjects, two hundred and eighteen pages of a concordance to English quotations, and twenty-five pages of a concordance to English translations of the Latin. Mr. W. Briggs, of this city, is sole agent for the sale of Messrs. Funk & Co.'s publications in the Dominion of Canada.

PICTURESQUE CANADA. Edited by Principal Grant, Queen's University. (Toronto: Art Publishing Company.) The first five parts of this beautiful work are now in the hands of subscribers. It fully merits the high praise universally bestowed upon it by the press. The illustrations have been executed in a manner hitherto unapproached in this country, and seldom equalled, scarcely ever surpassed, anywhere else. In almost every instance scenic effect combines with historic interest to render the subject attractive; few even of nature's subtler charms have eluded the eye of the artist; and it would be difficult to overestimate the talent, skill and care exercised in the workmanship whereof the exquisite impressions now before us are the result. Under the editorship of Principal Grant the literary excellence of the publication is assured. In carrying out the design to portray "our country as it was, and as it is," brilliant descriptive passages are interwoven with the historical thread, or warp, of the work, and so skilfully is this done that the inevitable discursiveness is rather pleasing than otherwise. For example, after describing the sufferings of Jacques Cartier and his men, in their first experience of a Canadian winter, the author rushes incontinently into a defence of the climate of Canada as it now is, with all the appliances of our modern civilization specially arranged to meet its exigencies, and take advantage of its benefits. The digression is long, but no one grumbles, and it is only when the reader finds himself gently switched into the historical track again that he becomes dimly conscious of having left it. It is quite reasonable to expect that many of those who entertain an aversion to what they regard as "dry studies," will be beguiled into acquiring a tolerably accurate knowledge of their country and its history by the combined artistic and literary attractions of "Picturesque Canada."